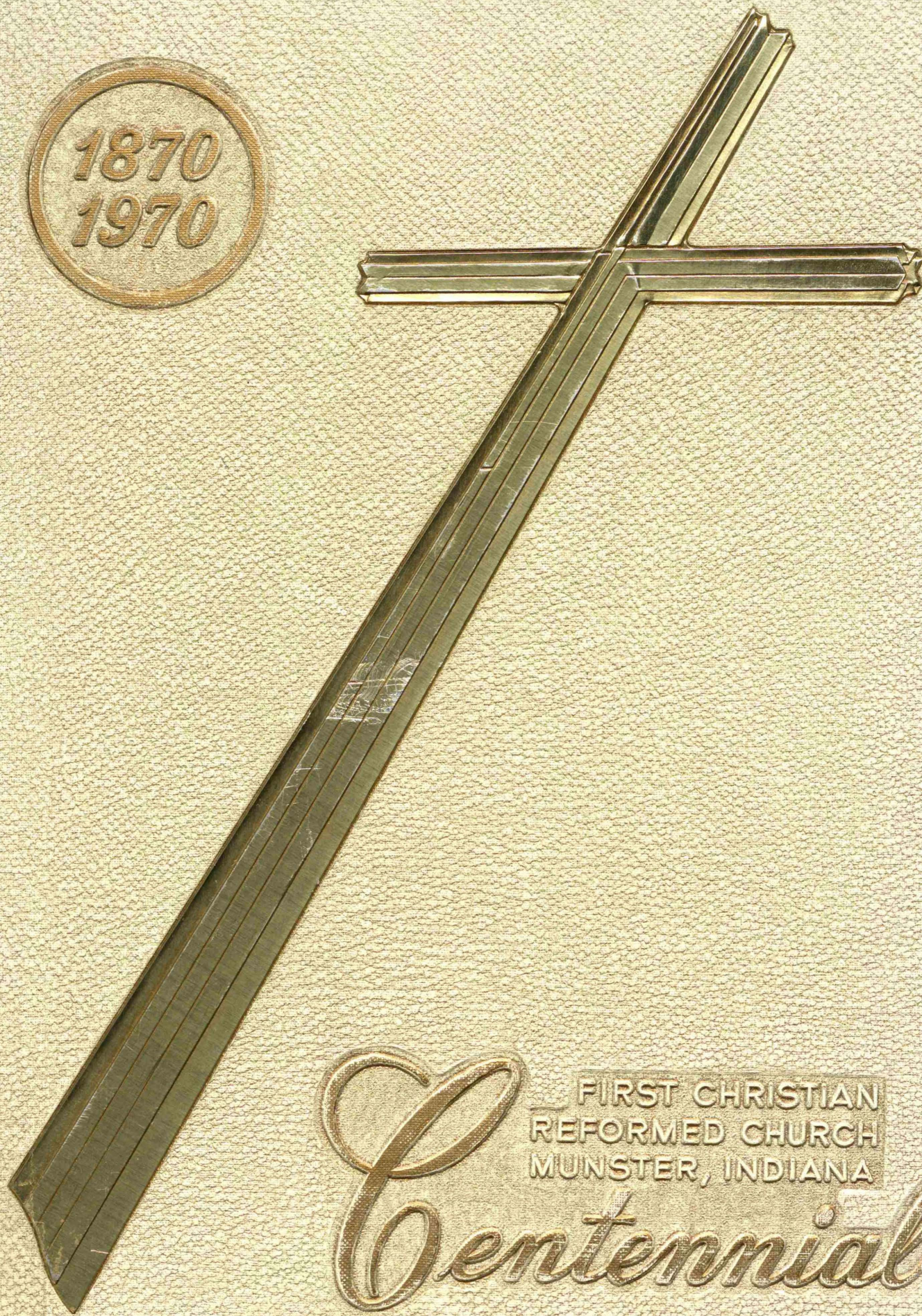




FIRST CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH
MUNSTER, INDIANA

Centennial

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Centennial
of the
FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
MUNSTER, INDIANA

1870

*A
Christ
controlled
Century*

1970

Rev. L. A. Bazuin, Pastor

Published By The Centennial Committee

1970

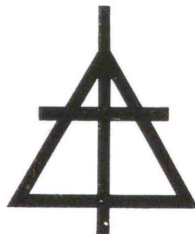
ECUMENICAL CREEDS

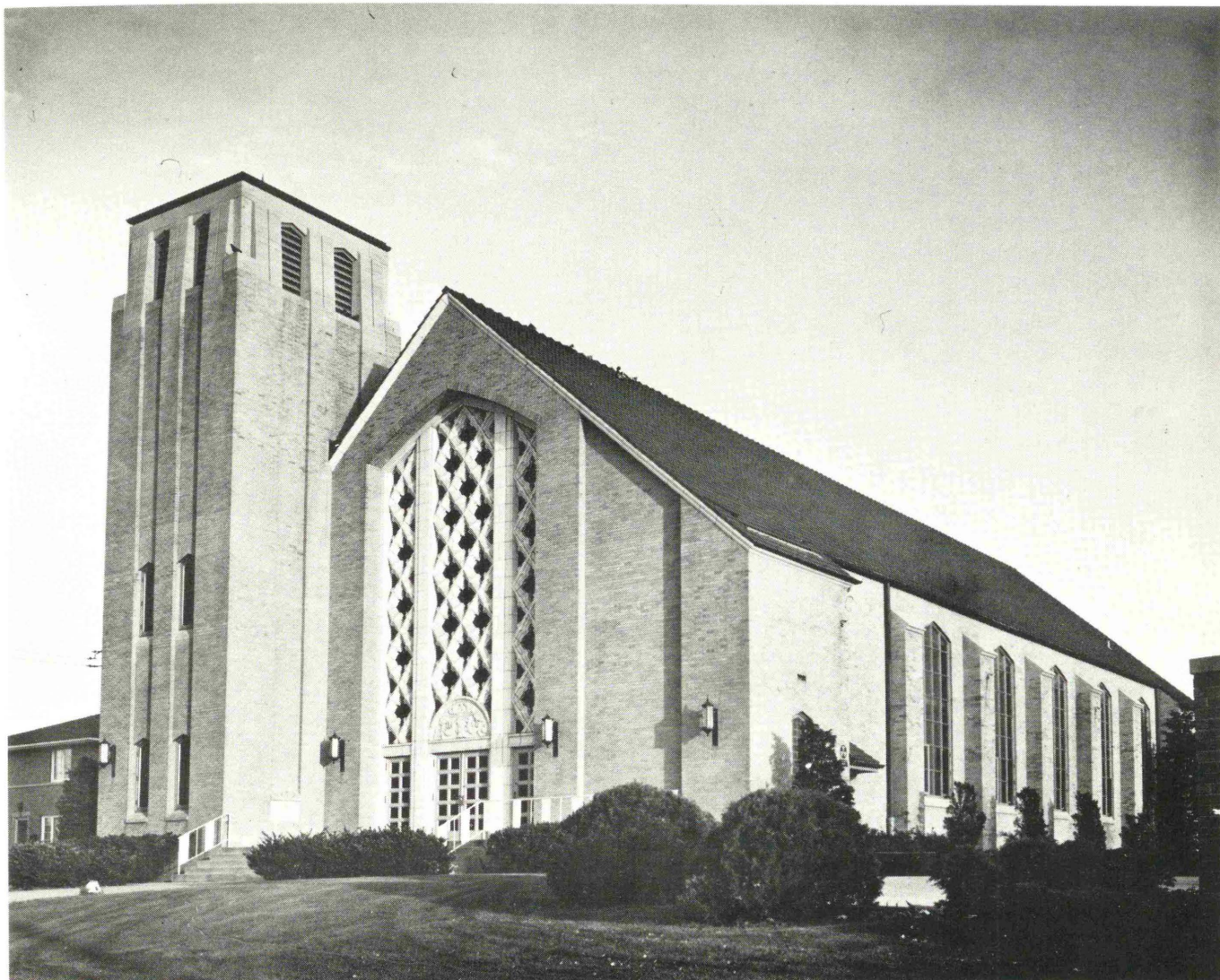
In Article IX of our Confession of Faith three writings, dating from the first centuries of the Christian Church, are named as creeds which "we do willingly receive." They are: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. The adoption of this Confession of Faith by the Synods of the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands, held in the last part of the sixteenth century and the beginning of the seventeenth, constituted therefore at the same time an implicit approval of the three Creeds mentioned above. They are called *Ecumenical* (general, universal) because they have been approved and accepted by nearly all the churches of Christendom.

APOSTLES' CREED

This Creed is called the *Apostles' Creed*, not because it is a production of the apostles themselves, but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings. It sets forth their doctrine, as has been well said, "in sublime simplicity, in unsurpassable brevity, in beautiful order, and with liturgical solemnity." In its present form it is of no later date than the fourth century. More than any other creed of Christendom, it may justly be called an ecumenical symbol of faith.

-
- I. I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
 - II. And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord;
 - III. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary;
 - IV. Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell;
 - V. The third day He rose again from the dead;
 - VI. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
 - VII. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
 - VIII. I believe in the Holy Spirit.
 - IX. I believe a holy catholic Church, the communion of saints;
 - X. The forgiveness of sins;
 - XI. The resurrection of the body;
 - XII. And the life everlasting. AMEN.





*"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into
the house of the Lord."*

Psalm 122:1

1870-1970

One Hundred Years of Blessings

A history of the Munster Christian Reformed Church must include a brief glance at the conditions that existed in the Netherlands shortly before many of our forefathers left their land to settle here in America.

In 1834 corruption in life as well as in doctrine had crept into the church. Many seceded from the Reformed Church of the Netherlands under the leadership of the Revs. H. DeCock, H. Scholte, S. VanVelzen and others. Because of their belief, these God-fearing people at times were cruelly persecuted by the government. They were ejected from their rented farms, boycotted in their businesses and ostracized socially. Even their little children were pelted with stones going to and from church and school. This persecution, as well as poor economic conditions, led some to look for a land in which freedom of religion and a better life could be found.

Leaving relatives and friends for a new land was not an easy decision to make. Means of travel and communication were not as rapid as in our day. Crossing the Atlantic Ocean took weeks and even months; many died aboard ships due to contagious diseases and had to be buried at sea.

In 1846 Rev. Van Raalte led a colony which settled in what is now Holland, Michigan, and Rev. Scholten's group settled in the Pella, Iowa, area. Others settled in Roseland, Illinois, called the High Prairie, and some in South Holland, which was called the Low Prairie. Later others crossed the "creek" now known as the Little Calumet River.

Among the early settlers of the Munster-Lansing area we find the names of G. Eenigenburg, Dingeman Jabaay and his three sons, Arie, Leendert and Peter, Anthony Bowman, Peter Kooy, Cornelius Klootwyk and Eldert Munster. These people settled along the north of Ridge Road since the land south of the ridge was a marsh or swamp, while the land north of the ridge to the Little Calumet was ideal for farming.

During the early years the settlers traveled to South Holland to attend church services. Then in 1861 the Dutch Reformed Church of Lansing (First Reformed of Lansing) was organized, and for the next nine years settlers attended this church.

In 1870, however, questions arose concerning the doctrine taught in the Dutch Reformed Church. At a congregational meeting all the members except one voted to secede to the True Holland Reformed Church, now known as the Christian Reformed Church. Out of this dissenting group came the charter members of the Munster Christian Reformed Church.

From the early minutes it is rather difficult to determine the exact date of the organization of the Munster Christian Reformed Church, but at the time of our 50th anniversary the date was set as August 25, 1870. The first recorded minutes are dated September 3, 1870. At that time Mr. Jan Vogel was elected president and Mr. G. Eenigenburg clerk (scriba) of the church council (kerkeraad).

From 1870 to 1874 services were held at the home

WARRANTY DEED.

SHORT FORM.

*Stoffel Vinke and
Bartha Vinke
TO
The True Dutch
Reformed Church.*

RECEIVED FOR RECORD,

*This 21st day of June
A. D. 1875, at 1 o'clock P. M., and
recorded in Record 23 Pages
144*

*John M. Dwyer Recorder
of Lake County.*

Recorder's Fee, = \$

DULY ENTERED FOR TAXATION,

*Entered June 21st 1875
H. B. Blip Auditor.*

Auditor's Fee, = \$

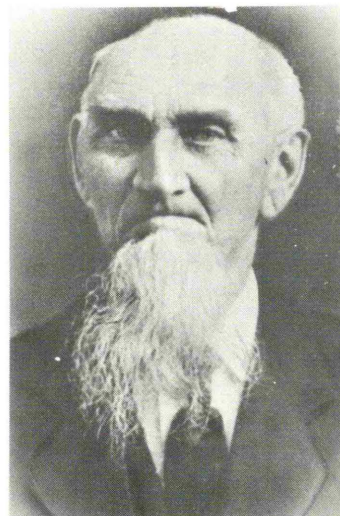
Printed and Sold by Wm. & J. Braden, Indianapolis, Ind.

ORIGINAL WARRANTY DEED

of G. Swets. For a description of a typical Sunday service we quote from the minutes of August 26, 1874: "The congregation of the True Holland Reformed Church (Ware Hollandsche Gereformeerde Kerk) of North Township, Indiana, met the 26th of August at the home of G. Swets, held a service conducted by the Rev. Meinders, Moderator, who opened the meeting with prayer after the singing of a psalm. In the afternoon of August 26th the congregation gathered again. There was an opening prayer by the moderator, Rev. Meinders. The membership pledged funds for the erection of a new church. Rev. Meinders closed the meeting with prayer after the congregation had sung Psalm 134, v. 3."

Some time during these four years an acre of ground was either donated or purchased from Mr. Stoffel Vinke. This is our present location. The size of the first church building was 24 by 36 feet and the total cost for the building was \$401.98 plus \$27.75 for a tower, for which Mr. Piet Klootwyk donated a bell. On December 6, 1874, the church was dedicated. Rev. Meinders was in charge of the service.

In 1875 the new congregation extended its first call to Rev. W. H. Van Leeuwen from Grand Rapids, Michigan, who declined. For the next four years a call was extended and declined once a year. Finally, in 1879, Rev. Mollema from Steam Boat, Iowa, accepted the call to be the church's first pastor.



REV. H. MOLLEMA

There is no record when the first parsonage was built or how it was financed. According to our oldest living member, Mr. D. P. Jabaay, it was built in 1880 by Mr. Jake Schoon.

In the early years our church was often referred to as the "Ware Hollandsche Geref. Kerk of Lansing, Illinois". According to some of the older members, this was because the nearest post-office was located in Lansing, Illinois.

Uitgaven ten dienste der *Wieuwe Kerk*
der *Ware Hollandsche Gereformeerde Gemeente*
in *North Township Lake County Indiana*

1874

Nov. 18

Domine Meinders gepredikt	\$ 4.00
Het schrijven en recorderen van de dielt van 't kerkelot	" 1 85
Spoorvracht voor het houtkoopen voor de Kerk	" 1 35
Diverse onkosten in Chicago	" 50
2 Carload Lumber	1/5 35
Fracht voor 't hout tot Landing	30 00
5 lb Sins Nails 7 ^{ct} & 6 lb Sins Nails	1/7
3 lb Sins & Schanieren geschroeven	40
1 Slot \$1.25. Zinkplaten .65 ^{ct}	1 90
3 Dagen Koffiegeld à 10 ^{ct} per dag	50
8 Springs à 2 ^{ct} & stuk. Zwinkelhaken met schroeven voor de kassiel	41
4 Bouten voor den toren & 12 Zinkplaten	65
2 Beugels voor de Bel met bouten & schroeven	1 50
4 platen Zink & tinnen lood en 3 lb Sins Nails 4 bouten gekort	1 20
28 dagen Werkloon voor Haspelman à \$2.00 per dag	56
5 Barrels Kalk à \$1.25 4 Stuk	6 25
Kostgeld betaald voor Haspelman bij Jos.	4 00
Zinken platen voor de schoorsteen & ring voor de	
Kagchelpijpen. 10 voet openen Staaf voor de Bel	40
M ^r . Frickert verdiend aan de Lamm	75
6 Kagchelpijpen 1 Elleboog 40 ^{ct} 4 Stuk	2 80
450 Steenen voor de schoorsteen 50 ^{ct} kanten	5 50
Betaald aan Barnd Swets aan kostgeld voor	
G. Enigenburg & Haspelman & nagels	28 38
J. Klootwijk betaald voor Wisky en nagels	4 21
3 Kagchelpijpen à 40 ^{ct} het stuk	1 20
16 Dagen Koffiegeld bij Jos.	1 60
6 lb 10p. nails 4 lb 10p. 5 dagen Koffiegeld	1 03
Aan de Graaf betaald voor pleisterwerk	8 00
Voor de pleistermannen	11 00
Voor Wisky betaald voor bovenstaanden	
3 dagen Kostgeld voor hun	2 10

Transporteering \$353.70

Transport

\$353.70

Aan Copie 5 ^{ct} Landpapier 10 ^{ct} Aan't'os betaald 8 d: Koffiegeld	95
200 8p: Nails 200 10p: Nails 10p: Nails 10p: Nails	24
Landpapier 5 ^{ct} het Schoonmaken der Kerk	1 05
2 Stuks Kagehelpypen, 7 ³ / ₄ dag werklloon aan de Timmerman	14 16
1/2 Koort Hout betaald en voor Spijls aan B. Swets	3 05
6 1/2 Kagehelpyp à 35 ^{ct} 1/2 Stuk	2 10
400 Fins Nails à 25 ^{ct} het St. 1 Kagehelplaat	1 05
Voor Suors Bus 6 dag: Kostgeld betaald	1 50
6 Dagen Koffiegeld 1/2 aan Schraeven 22 ^{ct} 1/2 Klinkbeul	1 37
Uitgaven voor den Foren Lumber	17 12
De Col en pilasters	3 06
Aan Valk \$1.88. 2 boeken 1/2 potlood	2 63
	\$ 401.98

REPRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL
RECORD OF EXPENDITURES
FOR FIRST CHURCH BUILDING

On May 8, 1882, Rev. Mollema announced that he had accepted a call to the Lafayette, Indiana, church. Understandably, the congregation was very sorry to see their first pastor leave after he had served only three years.

After the church was without a pastor for a year and a half, Rev. Temple accepted the call to be our next pastor. During his ministry, in December, 1883, it was decided to build an addition to the church because the congregation had outgrown the sanctuary. An addition of twenty feet was added to the auditorium as well as a consistory room and a small narthex in the front. The carpenter agreed to complete the job for the sum of \$500.00 plus \$4.00 for raising the building. Five year pledges were made at the congregational meeting and this amounted to \$400.00 in pledges and \$29.00 in cash. Twenty-two members pledged their support.



REV. H. TEMPLE

On May 5, 1884, it was decided to start a singing school (Zang-School). This was an organization of young people who met during the week for singing and fellowship and gave a musical program at Christmas and Easter. This organization continued to be in existence until approximately 1945.

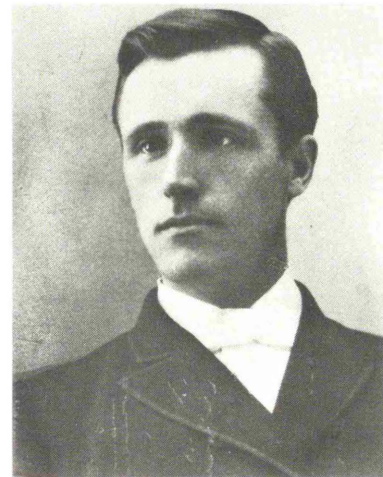
Attendance at catechism also came under discussion. The classes were well attended except for the young men's class. Therefore it was decided to reprimand those who did not attend. Forty years later Rev. Van Baalen added the following foot-note to the minutes recording this: "Nothing new under the sun. It's often said that this is a disease of this generation."

On March 12, 1885, the congregation accepted the proposal to incorporate the congregation. At this time the name was changed from the "Ware Hollandsche Gereformeerde Gemeente" to the "Holland Christelyk Geref. Gemeente."

In 1886 Rev. Temple accepted a call to another congregation. At this time the Council decided not to call another minister for the present but to continue to collect money to pay off the indebtedness.

It was apparently customary to hold a congregational meeting on New Year's Day after the worship service. These meetings were held to inform the membership about the financial condition of the church. On January 1, 1888, the treasurer reported a balance of \$112.00 for which a special thanksgiving prayer was offered.

Almost six years after Rev. Temple had left to serve elsewhere, on July 5, 1892, the congregation assembled for the purpose of calling another minister. Prior to the casting of votes the question was raised whether it was advisable to go ahead. Ours was an agricultural community at that time. The first part of the summer had been very wet and it was clear to all that they were confronted with a crop failure. However, the decision of the congregation was to proceed. With unanimous accord Rev. VanVliet was called and on July 30, it was announced that he had accepted the call. The Great Shepherd had not forgotten his flock. With the arrival of the new minister hope was renewed and the future was faced with courage. In spite of the unfavorable season of 1892, the congregation spent \$1,000.00 in improving the church building and parsonage, which was not a small sum for that time in light of the 1892 depression. It speaks of faith and determination.



REV. P. VAN VLIET

At that time, too, a need was felt for improving the singing of the congregation. The singing had always been led by a voorzinger, Mr. Cornelius Schoon, since there was no piano or organ. Now, however, the South Holland church had an organ for sale which Mr. John Meeter bought and donated to the church. Mr. John Eenigenburg and Mr. John

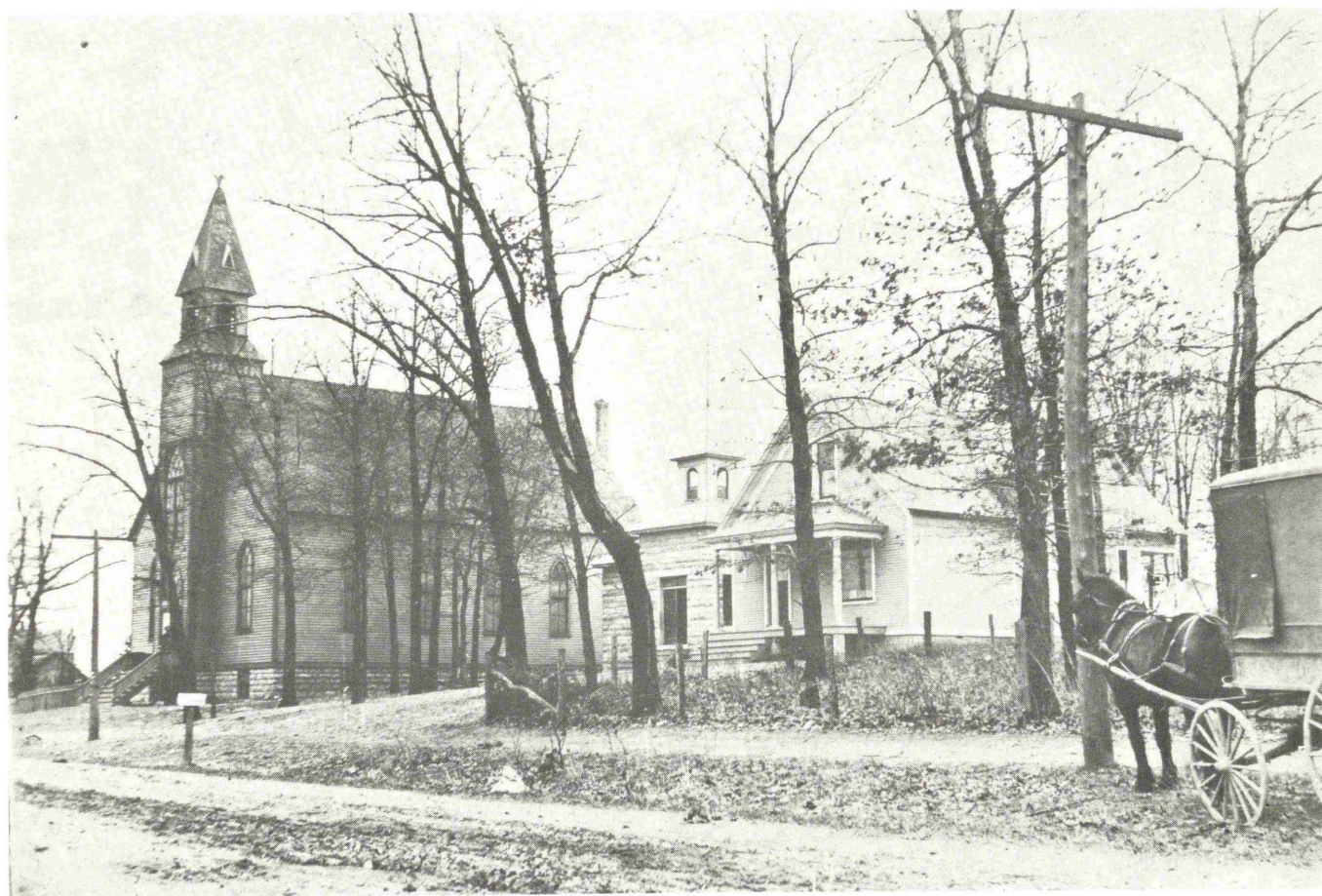
Ooms were the first organists. Another addition, the old church bell from the Reformed Church of South Holland, was bought and donated to our church by Mr. Mike Vander Aa. This bell called the faithful to the house of God until the disastrous fire of January 3, 1952. And on November 28, 1895, the congregation decided to purchase a quarter acre of land to enlarge the cemetery. This was purchased from Mr. D. Schoon for \$50.00.

On January 1, 1896, the position of janitor became vacant and bids were taken. The lowest bid was for \$30.00 per year for which the successful bidder contracted to perform all the functions pertaining to this position. However, the following year he raised his bid \$10.00 per year.

Because the congregation was experiencing a steady growth, it was decided at the congregational meeting held on Thanksgiving Day, 1899, to build a new church. The condition, however, was that sufficient money had to be raised so that the mortgage was not to exceed \$1,500.00. A list was circulated and this netted \$1,350.00. Plans for a building 84 feet long and 42 feet wide were made at a cost estimated at \$3,400.00. In order to go ahead the former limit of \$1,500.00 had to be raised to

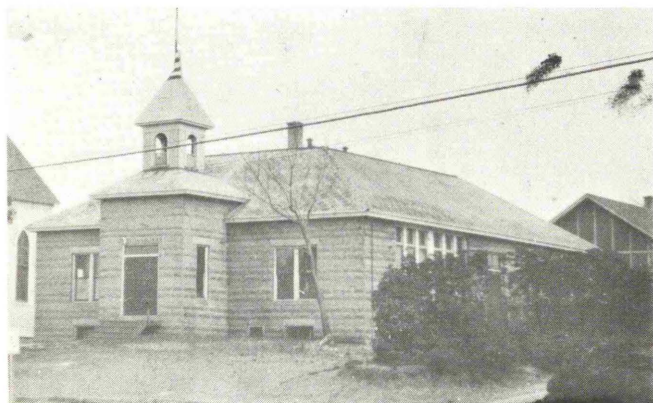
\$2,000.00. Mr. Van Drunen contracted to construct the building for a cost of \$3,223.00. The old church had to be moved and Mr. G. Kooy agreed to move it for \$30.00 provided two men from the congregation would assist him. Upon completion of the new church the old one was to be used for a horse stable. It was also decided to buy a furnace and new pews for the center row. The church was completed in 1900. Shortly thereafter it was decided to lay a wooden floor in the Council room, located under the church, because some of the members of the council were complaining about cold feet.

For a short time there was plenty of room in the church but soon after the turn of the century the church again became crowded. At this time many immigrants were coming from the Netherlands and settling in this area and many other people were coming here from Chicago. This increase in membership not only affected the seating capacity of the church but also created a problem as to housing the horses and buggies on Sundays. To solve the parking problem the council decided to purchase an additional acre of ground. They also decided to re-shingle the old barn because the horses were getting wet on rainy days.



THE CHURCH BUILDING AS CONSTRUCTED IN 1899

In 1903 the need for a Christian School was felt in this community. In the early part of November, Rev. K. Kuiper of Roseland delivered a lecture on the subject of Christian education and on February 15, 1904, the male members of the congregation assembled and formed a Society for Christian Instruction. Thirty-four members joined this organization and the following were elected to the Board: J. Eenigenburg, R. Vander Molen, R. Smits, H. Bakker, K. Kortenhoven and H. DeJong. This was the beginning of our present Christian school system in the community.



ORIGINAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

In 1905 a committee of young people came to the council asking permission to circulate a list through the congregation for the purpose of collecting funds for a new organ for the church. The request was granted on the condition that they confine themselves to requesting funds from the young people of the congregation. If, however, insufficient funds were obtained, then this matter was to be brought to the next congregational meeting. Within a month the young people returned and gratefully reported having collected \$850.00. At a special congregational meeting the young people received whole-hearted support from the congregation and were authorized to purchase the organ. So through the initiative of young people our first pipe organ was bought and installed. This organ was used until 1927 when a newly purchased Moeller pipe organ replaced it.

Later in 1905 a request came from Dr. H. Beets that the congregation support an Indian boy at our Rehoboth Boarding School for \$100.00 a year for a six-year period. This obligation was also gladly accepted by the young people's societies.

During these years society life flourished. Due to the slow transportation methods of those days, a branch of the young men's society was formed in Highland. This society proved to be the forerunner of the Highland Christian Reformed Church.

Since the age of the automobile was still in the future, Rev. Van Vliet's chief means of transportation was a bicycle. When weather permitted he used it to make his pastoral calls, and once a week he had

to use it to conduct a catechism class in the public school in Globe (Now 170th Street, half mile west of Torrence Ave.). In those days there were no black top roads or concrete sidewalks to make cycling easier, therefore, in March, 1906, it was decided to buy a horse and buggy for the minister. Rev. Van Vliet didn't enjoy the use of the horse and buggy very long, however, for in September of 1906 he accepted a call to become Home Missionary for Classis Iowa. Because the arrival of the next minister could be far off, the council decided to store the buggy and to sell the horse.

Two months later, at a congregational meeting on December 17, 1906, Rev. Borgman was called to be our minister. The call letter stated that he was to receive a salary of \$800.00 per year, have free use of horse and buggy and that he was to preach at three services a Sunday during the light phase of the moon and twice with the dark moon. At this meeting it was also decided to buy lights for the church auditorium, either kerosene or gasoline. When Rev. Borgman accepted our call, a horse was purchased for the new minister for the sum of \$150.00, but evidently the horse was not suitable because later a member who knew a lot about horses was asked to sell it at the Crown Point market and was appointed to buy a suitable animal.



REV. W. BORGMAN

In October of 1907 the congregation decided that the office bearers should retire after two years of service to give more men a chance to serve. However, this decision was never put into effect since the minutes indicate that whenever a member's term expired, he again was put up for nomination. At another meeting a little later, the first ushers for the Munster church were appointed. They were C. Jabaay and S. Vander Wall. At this same meeting it was decided to remove a few trees near the parsonage because of dampness. The minister was appointed to take care of this and as a reward for his labor he was to receive the wood for fuel.



To all to whom these Presents Shall Come Greeting:

Whereas, Articles of Association duly signed and acknowledged, showing no Capital Stock having been filed in the office of the Secretary of State on the 31 day of March 1909 for the organization of the FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

under and in accordance with the provisions of an Act entitled "AN ACT FOR THE INCORPORATION OF SOCIETIES NOT FOR PECUNIARY PROFIT" etc. approved March 6th, 1889, and published on page 144 of the Acts of the General Assembly for that year and acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto.

Now Therefore, I, FRED. A. SIMS, Secretary of State of the State of Indiana, by virtue of the powers and duties vested in me by law, do hereby certify that the said Church is a body politic and corporate, authorized and empowered by the laws of the State of Indiana to proceed to carry out the objects of its organization.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the State of Indiana, at the City of Indianapolis this 31st day of March A.D. 1909.

Fred A. Sims
Secretary of State.
By *Frank J. Embles* Deputy.

We wonder whether the minister chopped the trees down himself!

At this time it became apparent that several families living in the Highland area were in need of a building to hold society meetings. A church building was vacant and a committee was appointed to rent this building, the rental not to exceed \$15.00 a year. Soon the committee reported that it had rented it for \$1.00 a month.

Shortly after this, on February 3, 1908, a committee consisting of H. DeJong, J. Bos, and K. Kortenhoven, representing the Highland area, appeared at the Council meeting and expressed the desire to be organized as a separate congregation. In a fatherly way the Council pointed out the possible disadvantages and difficulties which their proposed cause would involve. They also assured the Highland committee that in no way would they oppose the brethren in their undertaking. The matter of this proposed congregation was referred to Classis, where a committee was appointed which in co-operation with the Munster Council brought about the organization of the Highland Christian Reformed Church. This organization took place on April 23, 1908, the new church consisting of 38 families.

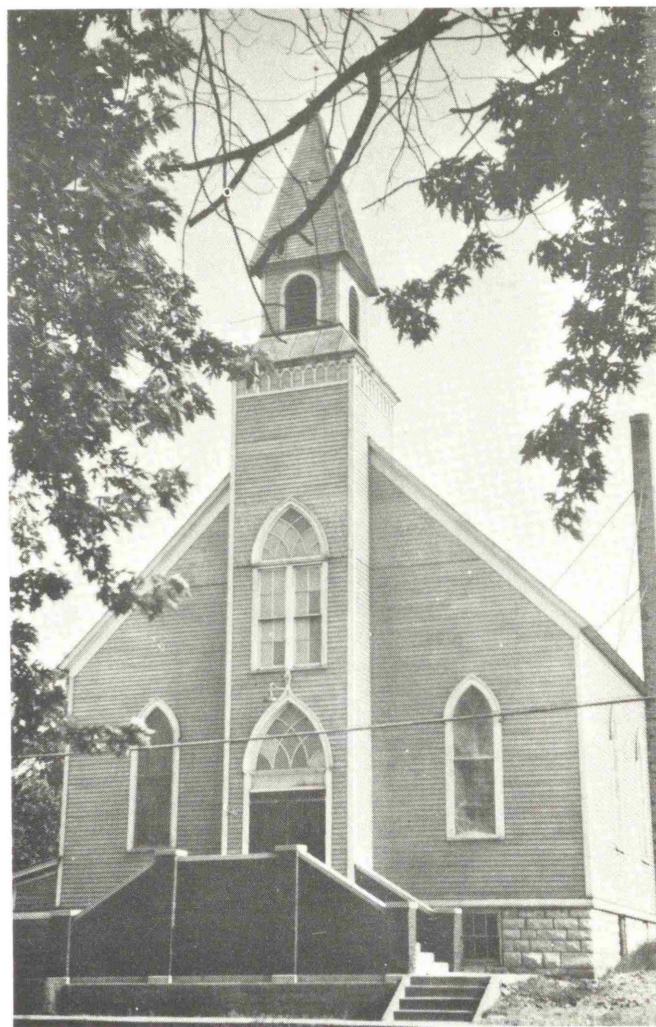
Now Munster was faced with a problem. Previously one elder had left for Roseland; now two transferred with the newly-organized congregation, leaving Munster with only one elder. A special meeting was held on May 6, 1908, for the purpose of electing elders and a deacon to fill the vacancies. At this meeting it was also decided to change the name of the congregation from Lansing, Illinois, to Munster, Indiana.

During the next two years a variety of physical improvements were proposed and approved. The water supply for the church and parsonage was a shallow well located at the slope of the hill. The water it gathered would syphon from the hill where the barns and cemetery were located. In view of this unhealthy situation the Council proposed the drilling of a well. This met with the approval of the congregation, although the pastor said he hadn't found any bones in the drinking water.

In the summer of 1909 it was decided to build a chapel just south of the church. This chapel was to serve as a Council room and also as a center for the social activities of the congregation. It is thought that Rev. Borgman and Mr. William Jongsma build this chapel, for several years later on a visit Rev. Borgman mentioned that the one end was about six inches wider than the other. Many of the older generation have fond memories of this chapel.

In February, 1910, ten gasoline lights were installed in the church and three in the parsonage and because the wooden sidewalk between the church and the parsonage was badly in need of repairs, it was decided to replace it with a concrete walk.

Before electricity was installed in the church, the air for the pipe organ was supplied by man power. When the organ pumper resigned, bids were accepted for this all-important job. Two bids were



THE REMODELED CHURCH

received, one for \$20.00 a year, the other for \$16.00. Naturally, the lowest bidder was appointed.

On September 3, 1911, the question of using the English language came up for the first time. Student H. Meeter, a son of the congregation, asked to conduct the services in English. After giving this matter considerable thought, the consistory answered as follows: "At such a service the consistory is unable to function in its official capacity since some of the brethren are not sufficiently familiar with the English language and certain members of the congregation would be unable to enjoy the service for the same reason; therefore, the request is not granted."

In the fall of 1911, Rev. Borgman received and accepted a call to serve the 2nd Christian Reformed Church of Roseland. He had served our congregation for almost five years and had been appreciated for his unique sense of humor, for being a handy man, a well-liked preacher and an exceptional catechism teacher, so the congregation was sorry to see him leave.



REV. J. H. MOKMA

At a congregational meeting held January 15, 1912, Rev. Mokma was elected from the proposed trio by a large majority and he did accept the call. During his first year at Munster several decisions were made. The quota for the Theological School was set at \$1.00 per family, Mr. D. A. Jabaay was appointed to purchase a fur robe for the pastor's buggy, and in the fall of 1912 the Ladies' Aid was organized. This society is still one of the most active societies of the church. Over the years it has made many contributions toward improvements in both church and parsonage as well as to denominational causes. According to the records the first Men's Society had been organized in the summer of 1910. Council minutes also often refer to the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Societies. Apparently it was an annual custom for them to present a program consisting of music, recitation, and dialogue in the church auditorium. Admission was by ticket and hot chocolate and delicacies were served as refreshments.



LADIES AID OF 1927

In November, 1912, a request came to the Council to have a service in the English language on alternate Sunday evenings. This question was brought before the congregational meeting on November 28. When it was moved that this question should be voted on, a number of brothers, although requested by the minister to remain, defiantly left the meeting with the result that no vote was taken. The question was tabled until the congregational meeting on New Year's Day, 1913, when the subject was reopened. This time the Council proceeded very cautiously. They proposed a substitute motion reading as follows: "Realizing that a need is felt in the congregation for English, it is proposed that on such Sunday evenings when no regular services are held, something will be provided in the English language. How often this will occur is to be decided by the Council and minister." This motion was adopted. However, this was not the end of nor the solution for the language problem.

After serving the Munster congregation a little over a year, Rev. Mokma received a call to serve the 12th St. Christian Reformed Church of Chicago, better known to us as Cicero I. He accepted this call and the unsolved language problem may have been the reason for his brief ministry.

There had been and still was considerable opposition to the use of English. In fact, six members of the congregation protested the English services which had been conducted by Rev. Mokma on Sunday evenings. These men claimed that the Council had violated the accepted motion regarding the use of English. When the protesting brethren took their grievance to Classis, Classis appointed a committee of five to meet with the Council and the protesting members. After careful investigation this committee found that the charges were without foundation and that the Council had not violated the motion but had been justified in its action.

The Council also went to Classis to ask advice as to what to do with members who did not carry their proportionate share of the financial burdens of the congregation. The advice they received was to deal with misers as Scripture demands.

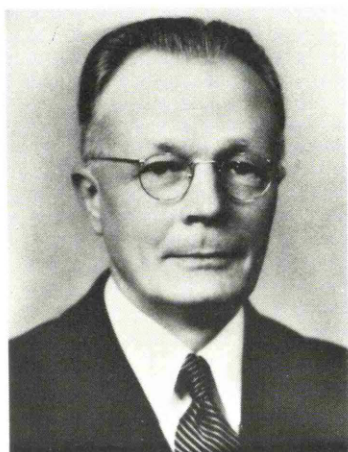
On July 25, 1913, the Council presented a motion to build a new parsonage to be located just east



PARSONAGE COMPLETED IN 1915

of the old one. After the congregation approved this motion, the old parsonage was sold and moved to Fisher Street. The new one was built at a cost of \$4,400.00 and was completed between the departure of Rev. Mokma and the arrival of his successor.

On January 5, 1914, a call was extended to the Rev. D. Zwier and in due time the answer came that he had accepted, so this vacancy had existed less than a year. The call letter extended to Rev. Zwier stipulated that he conduct young people's meetings on Sunday evenings in the English language. At these meetings he was to expound and discuss the Scriptures and although these meetings were especially for the youth, anyone interested could attend.



REV. D. ZWIER

In October of 1914, Classis Illinois asked the congregation to become the calling church for a Home Missionary. His salary was set by Classis at \$1,500.00. Munster accepted this challenge and offered to pay \$400.00 of this salary, thus manifesting zeal for God's Kingdom. This really was not surprising, for as we go over the records of the church, we find that the congregation willingly contributed to all denominational causes and helped needy congregations that were struggling because of crop failures or the destruction of their churches by fire. However, although several calls were extended for a home missionary, all were declined.

In 1916 several families left for Montana. This venture did not prove to be very successful, for in the course of time several returned to our congregation. That same year the worship service was modified by having the organist play a prelude to the service. Prior to this time the prelude had consisted of a Psalm sung by the congregation.

During April, 1916, Rev. Zwier informed the Council that he planned to purchase an automobile. He requested that the money previously used for feeding the horse and maintaining the buggy be used for car expense; this request was granted and he was given \$150.00 per year for car expense. The

horse, buggy, harness, and fly net were sold for a total of \$72.00 and this money was used to purchase a pump to force water into a large tank located in the attic of the parsonage. The water from this tank supplied the parsonage and the adjoining Christian School with drinking water.

During this year it was also decided to hold a Mission Festival on Labor Day and to invite the Christian Reformed Churches of Highland and South Holland to participate. These festivals were held for several years. Shortly after the first festival, once again certain members proposed to the Council that English services be held. The Council endorsed the recommendation and presented it at the congregational meeting. At that meeting it was decided that English services be held on alternate Sunday evenings. This was a significant milestone in our church's history. In addition to the English service, the children were now permitted to learn their catechism in English as well.

In 1918 the budget system was introduced in our church. Previously the deacons would go through the congregation quarterly to collect funds for operating expenses. The following January the first insurance policy was taken out on the church buildings, amounting to \$5,000.00.

In those days we had an excellent choir (singing school). Rehearsals were held in the chapel and programs consisting mostly of cantatas were given in the church. We had only one piano and this heavy instrument had to be moved back and forth from the chapel to the church. To make moving easier, the choir received permission to remove a window from the southwest corner of the church and replace it with a door. There was no choir loft in the church, consequently heavy boards and risers were brought into the church to serve as a platform. One evening was required to build the platform and another to take it down, so giving a cantata during these years entailed a considerable amount of work.

Six members of the congregation, M. Meeter, H. Bult, J. Schuringa, H. Keessen, W. Jabaay and P. Eenigenburg, came to the Council early in 1919 with the request to start an English-speaking congregation. They felt that the overcrowded conditions of our church and the needs of the youth justified their request. This request was approved by our church and granted by Classis, and shortly after that forty families left to organize what is now the First Christian Reformed Church of Lansing. They organized under the condition that they would temporarily use some of our facilities, including our chapel and cemetery.

On March 1, 1920, Rev. Zwier announced that he had accepted a call extended to him by the Maple Avenue Christian Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan. He had served our congregation from 1914 to 1920, which included the years our country was involved in World War I. Our congregation had experienced a steady growth during this time and the Lansing congregation was organized with little difficulty, due to his wise leadership.

After an extremely short vacancy of only a few weeks Rev. J. K. Van Baalen accepted the call to be our pastor. Since he had no car, the congregation was asked for funds to purchase one. The car presented to him was a Crow Elkhart.



REV. J. K. VAN BAALEN

In the summer of 1920, Mr. G. Ellens was appointed by the Highland, Munster, Lansing, and South Holland Christian Reformed Churches to serve as an evangelist. His work was to begin a mission in the city of Hammond and therefore a store and house were purchased in the 400 block on Indiana Street to serve as a meeting place. Mr. Ellens began his work with enthusiasm. Sunday School and Sunday evening services were conducted in the mission hall. He also held street meetings and visited the county jail. After a successful beginning, interest in this mission project began to wane. The churches no longer supported the cause wholeheartedly and finally withdrew their support. To keep the project going, a Mission Society was organized under the supervision of the Munster Council. For several years this society struggled along and finally the churches again took over the mission. In 1945, after 25 years of service, Mr. Ellens resigned and Mr. Dirk Aardsma was appointed to replace him.

Mr. Aardsma labored faithfully in the Hammond mission for 12 years. During his ministry the original property was sold and a new chapel was built on the corner of Indiana and Oakley Avenues. After Mr. Aardsma's resignation in 1957, Rev. J. Paauw was called to succeed him, and two years later the Hammond City Mission was organized as the Hammond Christian Reformed Church. A new church building has since been erected on 167th St. in the Woodmar section of Hammond.

The year the Hammond mission was first set up, 1920, also marked the Munster church's 50th anniversary. This anniversary was celebrated on August 25, when former pastors as well as friends from neighboring churches joined the congregation in reviewing the blessings of the past 50 years.

1922 was a year of modernization. In March electric lights were installed in the church, and the Council decided by a vote of 7 to 4 to discontinue taking the collection with the old-fashioned bag on the end of a stick and to use regular collection plates. During April of the next year a request came to the Council to expand the use of English in our services. The Council decided not to curtail the Dutch services but to ask the minister to give a ten-minute review of the sermon in the English language on Sunday mornings. However, the first time this was done some men walked out. At the next Council meeting 30 members appeared to express their objections. Faced with such opposition, the Council thought it wise to discontinue this practice.

In May of 1925 the Council began serving communion to members while they were seated in the pew. Until this time communicant members always sat around a long table at the front of the church while receiving Holy Communion.

At a Council meeting held in February, 1926, Mr. Gil Ooms came with a request to again organize a Sunday School for the children of the congregation. The Sunday School had been discontinued at the time of the organization of the Christian School. The request met with the approval of the Council and a committee was appointed to obtain teachers. The committee was successful in obtaining 7 teachers and classes began in May, 1926. Mr. Theodore Hoekstra was the first superintendent.

On May 19, 1926, Rev. Van Baalen informed the Council he had received a call from the Christian Reformed Church of Peace, Minnesota, and on June 8th he announced he had accepted the call. During his ministry, the language problem often came up but no solution seemed possible. As a result a few families had left for the Lansing Church where services were held in English.



REV. J. H. MONSMA

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE CHR. REF. CHURCH
MUNSTER, IND

Jan. 1, 1928 -- Jan. 1, 1929

Inkomsten 1928-	
Budget Inkomsten 1928 -----	\$ 5818.75
Insurance -----	1864.55
Ladies Aid - Seats in Chapel -----	100.00
Papering Chapel -----	75.00
Total -----	\$ 7858.30
Uigaven -----	\$ 8087.31
Tekort -----	\$ 229.01

Arme Kas 1928

Saldo 1927 -----	\$ 534.19
Inkomsten 1928 -----	1715.92
Total -----	\$ 2250.11
Uitgaven 1928 ---	1892.07
Saldo -----	\$ 358.04

Leeraars Traktament	\$ 2500.00
Auto Expense	150.00
Auto Depreciation	200.00
Koster	430.00
Coal	126.00
Kerkeraad Benodigheden	35.00
Preek Beurten	109.00
Telefoon Pastorie	26.00
Theologische School	420.00
Emiritus Kas	240.00
Klassikale Onkosten	32.80
Synodale Onkosten	84.00
Reparatie aan de gebouwen	80.93
Paper Hanging Pastorie	74.09
Paper Hanging Chapel	75.00
Licht, Kerk and Chapel	137.46
Side Walk and Curb	190.73
Drive Ways	79.70
Electric werk en materiaal	51.31
Organisten	20.00
Seats in Chapel	187.50
Interest on Note 1927	13.16
Interest on Note of the Organ	172.50
Insurance Kerk en Chapel	886.40
Repairing of Fire	1470.92
Miscellaneous	75.37
Note of 1927	219.44
Total	\$ 8087.31

ORGAN FUND

Balance Jan. 1st, 1928 -----	\$.71
Receipts:	
Organ Recital -----	234.33
Collections -----	537.04
Donation -----	10.00
Youngmen Soct. -----	50.00
Borrowed at the Bank -----	2125.00
Total -----	\$ 2957.08
Paid Müller Organ Co. -----	\$ 2400.00
Paid on Note -----	500.00
Interest -----	15.00
	2915.00
Balance ---	\$ 42.08

On June 26, 1926, Rev. Monsma was called to serve our church. The call was extended at a salary of \$2,500.00, free parsonage and telephone, a Ford Sedan and \$150.00 auto expense. The congregation soon learned that he accepted the call and he was installed on September 19, 1926. Again our church had experienced a very short vacancy.

After Rev. Monsma came, the language question was discussed at a Council meeting and it was decided to present three propositions to the congregation: 1. To keep the services in the Holland language and teach the youth in the same language. 2. To introduce four services, using the Holland language in two and the English in the other two. 3. To start seriously on Americanization by having one service in the English language every other Sunday morning, to be introduced at the discretion of the Council. If the latter was decided upon, it was to be made plain at the meeting that in due time we would become an English-speaking congregation.

These propositions were thoroughly discussed at the next congregational meeting. A secret ballot was cast in which 74 members voted in favor of proposal No. 3, 10 opposed it and 5 abstained. Rev. Monsma announced that if any member felt the need for a Holland service he was willing to conduct it. So beginning in February of 1927, every other Sunday morning the service was conducted in English, until Jan. 1, 1929, when English services were instituted every Sunday morning.

Less than a year later, in January, 1928, fire broke out in the basement of the church. For a moment it seemed as if the fire would destroy the entire

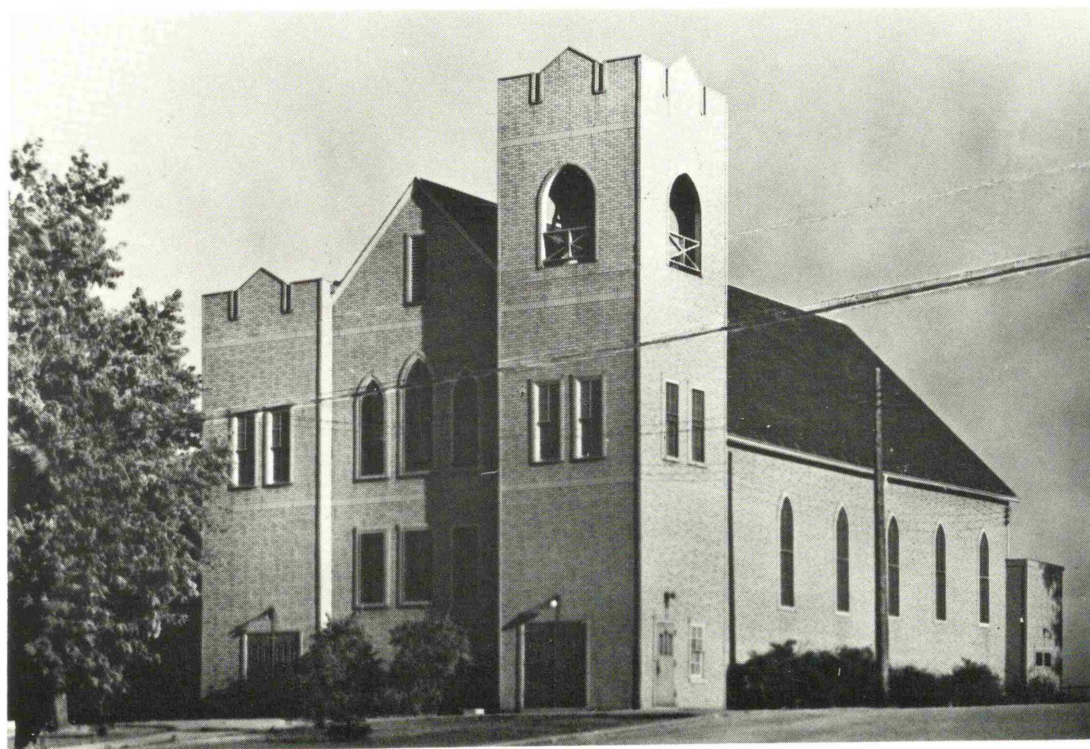
building but through the efforts of the Munster and Hammond Fire Departments the building was saved. In appreciation for their efforts, a letter of thanks was sent to the telephone operator who had notified the fire departments so efficiently and a \$25.00 gift was sent to both fire departments. During repairs we used the Munster Town Hall auditorium for our services.

In 1929 the great depression began. Our church was affected as well as the rest of the country, with the result that we ended 1930 with a deficit of \$1,000.00. A few years later, early on Sunday morning, July 2, 1933, a severe wind and hail storm struck our community. This storm caused the chimney to fall through the roof of the church, resulting in considerable damage. Again services were held in the Munster Town Hall auditorium until repairs were completed.

A third worship service was initiated in January, 1935. The services were now conducted as follows: morning and evening services in English, with an afternoon service in the Holland language. This completed another step in the Americanization of our church.

In 1937 the Golden Hour Circle was organized. In addition to Bible study, its purpose was to help the church and missions with fund-raising projects. One of its first contributions to our church was to supply the first bulletins. This society, which began with nine members, continues to be one of our largest and most active societies.

On May 8, 1939, the congregation approved a recommendation to move and enlarge the church



THE CHURCH AFTER MOVING AND REMODELING

building and to place a full basement under it. This remodeling was done at the approximate cost of \$16,000.00. In June the work of excavating, moving and rebuilding was started. During our remodeling program the Munster Public School Board graciously granted us permission to worship in the gym of the Lanier School. We expected that in three or four months this project would be completed but it was not until the spring of 1940 that we returned to our own church.

At the first council meeting in 1940, Mr. John Klooster, a deacon, was elected clerk. Mr. Klooster completed another step in the Americanization of our church when he recorded all Council minutes in English. Prior to this time they had always been recorded in Dutch. Among the items he recorded was that on Veteran's Day, November 11, 1940, a severe wind storm again caused damage to the church by a falling chimney.

In the season of 1940-41 a small group out of the congregation felt that they had a responsibility to bring the Good News of Salvation to our community. They organized an informal Mission Society and canvassed the town of Munster for pupils to attend the Community Sunday School, which met immediately after the regular Sunday School. The membership of the group at one time reached nearly 100 pupils. These pupils were brought to and from the church by the staff, first with private autos and later with the Chicago Christian High School bus.

This Community Sunday School operated as a separate unit until 1955, when it was merged with the regular Sunday School. At least one of these



**COMMUNITY SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS
OF 1945**

early pupils and his family are now members of our congregation, and many of the others have become members and leaders in other churches. This same Mission Society also organized and taught the Daily Vacation Bible School from 1943 until about 1953.

On August 26, 1942, a special event took place at the church. The congregation honored Rev. and Mrs. Monsma with a surprise party commemorating the 25th anniversary of Rev. Monsma's ordination and the Monsma's 25th wedding anniversary.



**REV. AND MRS. MONSMA
25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

A special Council meeting was held on December 8, 1942, with a committee from the Christian School Board to consider the purchase of the school property adjoining our church property. The Christian School had moved to its present location in Lansing, Illinois. The proposal to buy was presented to the congregation in January, 1943. At that meeting it was decided to purchase this property for the cash sum of \$4,500.00. Later it was decided to dispose of the buildings on this property to make a parking lot of the school grounds.

Some time later we received a request from the Highland and Lansing churches to meet and discuss the possibility of having a Christian high school in our area. Up to this time those wishing to attend a Christian high school had to travel to Chicago Christian High in Englewood. These meetings led to the organization and building of Illiana Christian High School. Rev. Gerald Postma served as the first Bible teacher for Illiana Christian High, and during this time he also served as our associate pastor.

The congregation celebrated its 75th anniversary on September 12, 1945. Rev. Monsma wrote the history for the commemorative booklet and Mr. H. Boender served as the program chairman.

★ SERVICEMEN ★

of

WORLD WAR II



Back Row: Don Klooster, John Harkema, Jr., John Dekker, Herb Van Wieren, Joe Norman, Clarence Verbeek, Melvin Jongsma, Not Identified, Rich Hoekstra, Bob Ooms, Jim Smit, Not Identified

Row 2: Harold Scholten, Chester Boender, Peter J. Dykstra, Abel Doornbos, Douglas Boender, Gil Fennema, Peter M. Dykstra, Jake Meeter, Andrew Jabaay, Harry Rodenburg

Row 3: Harold Bultema, John Vroom, John Vander Noord, Cornelius Boender, John Dykstra, Jacob Doornbos, Tony Hoekstra, Bud Meeter

Row 4: Melvin Kamstra, Gerald Klooster, Case Dykstra, Ed Huizenga, Chaplain C. Van Schouwen, Rev. J. Monsma, John Doornbos, Fred Klooster, Charles Zandstra, Arnold Dekker



75th JUBILEE PROGRAM

September 12, 1945

2:30

Organ Prelude	J. Van Wieren
Singing Audience	Psalm
Scripture & Prayer	Rev. Monsma
Ladies' Choir	Dank Nu Allen God
Greetings	Dr. Van Dyk
Recitation	Mrs. J. Dykstra
Greetings	Rev. Vander Ploeg
Dutch Dialogue	Group of Ladies
Anniversary Choir	Hymn of Thanksgiving
Singing Audience	Psalm
Closing Remarks & Prayer	Rev. Zwier

7:30

Song Service	Sam Boomsma
Organ Prelude	J. Van Wieren
Singing Audience	Hymn
Scripture & Prayer	Rev. Monsma
Remarks	Rev. Monsma
Girls' Choir	Glory in My Soul
Greetings	Dr. H. Meeter
Anniversary Choir	Hymn of Thanksgiving
Greetings	Rev. A. Jabaay
Solo: The Lord's Prayer	P. Vander Vaart
Remarks	Student Fred Klooster
Main Address	Rev. Zwier
Anniversary Choir	The Nation's Prayer
Singing Audience	Hymn
Prayer	Dr. H. Meeter

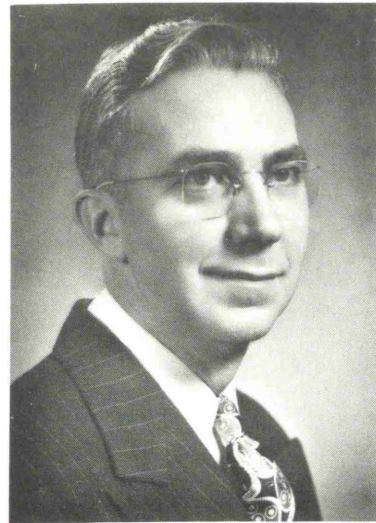
In 1947, 13 families left our congregation to join the newly-organized church in Oak Glen. They were given \$5,000.00 to assist them in their building program.

In February, 1948, Rev. Monsma became very ill and on March 25, 1948, the Lord took him from his family and from his congregation to be with Him. Before the departure of our dear pastor, he left the following message for the congregation:

"Beloved congregation in Christ Jesus. Easter reminds us of life and hope, yes, Life Eternal. There is always a two-sided aspect about Easter. On the one hand we sing, "Low in the Grave He Lay," and when faith has ebbed low, we go to the tomb with our eyes filled with tears and our hearts filled with question. But when we arrive at the tomb and we find the stone rolled away, and when we seek the living among the dead, then we know that the cause of our tears was only our shortsightedness and our lack of faith. Beloved, these will very likely be my last words to you as a congregation. They are words of hope and certainty, for Christ lives; therefore we shall live also. There is abundance of reason to be joyful and to be grateful in the Lord. Once more I wish to thank you for the love and consideration you have shown in the past. May God bless you. May God lift up His countenance upon you and be gracious unto all of you—that you live together in peace—a peace that flows from Christ our Saviour, God's only Begotten Son. Amen."

The funeral service in the church was conducted by Rev. G. Hoeksema, pastor of the 3rd Christian Reformed Church of Roseland, and the service at the cemetery was conducted by Dr. M. Van Dyke of Highland, Indiana. Rev. Monsma was laid to rest in the cemetery behind our church on March 29, 1948. He had served our congregation faithfully for a period of almost 22 years, from 1926 to 1948. During his ministry the language problem was solved and due to a steady growth the church building was moved and enlarged. His ministry was greatly appreciated. Even today at Men's Society one hears the remark: "This is how Rev. Monsma explained it." Although he suffered from arthritis and found it difficult to walk at times, he seldom missed preaching three sermons every Sunday. The labors of Rev. and Mrs. Monsma will long be remembered.

The following ministers received calls to fill the vacancy created by the death of Rev. Monsma: Revs. M. Arnoys, F. Van Houten, B. J. Haan, R. Hooker, R. DeHaan and J. Bult. Rev. Bult accepted our call and was installed on September 8, 1949, ending a vacancy of one and a half years. Another vacancy was filled when Rev. C. Van Schouwen accepted the call to be Bible teacher at Illiana, the post vacated when Rev. Postma, our associate pastor, received and accepted a call to serve the Christian Reformed Church of Sanborn, Iowa.



REV. J. L. BULT

In the fall of 1949 two new societies were organized, the Men's Forum with Rev. Van Schouwen as Bible leader and the Senior Young Men's Society with Rev. J. L. Bult as leader. The following year these two societies merged as the Young Men's Society. In October, 1951, this organization's name was again changed to the Men's Forum and continued actively for 16 years. Rev. Bossenbroek, our present associate pastor, was the leader of this organization from 1957 to 1967 when the Men's Forum disbanded.

In 1950 our church building was redecorated. The old pews, very uncomfortable, were replaced with new ones, the platform was remodeled, new carpeting and lights were installed and new pulpit furniture was purchased. Some of the old pews were sold to the Hammond City Mission Chapel, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church of Evergreen Park and to individual members.



Organists 1945

Mrs. M. Boender, Mrs. J. Van Wieren,
Mr. J. Van Wieren



FIRE — JANUARY 3, 1952

January 3, 1952, will be a day long remembered by many of our members. On that day our church building and its contents were entirely destroyed by fire. While the fire was still burning, representatives of the 1st Lansing Christian Reformed Church and 1st Reformed Church of Lansing offered us the use of their facilities. Although shocked by the day's tragic event, the Council met that same day at the Lansing Christian Reformed Church to make arrangements for services for the following Sunday. At this meeting three representatives from St. John's Lutheran Church of Lansing also offered us the use of their sanctuary. It was decided to conduct our first service at 2:00 p.m. in the Lansing Christian Reformed Church and our evening service at 7:00 at the 1st Reformed Church of Lansing. This schedule continued for two years, until our new church was dedicated on February 2, 1954.

Some of the shock and grief felt by the congregation was softened by the many expressions of

sympathy and aid it received. Letters of regret were received from the Stated Clerk of Classis Chicago South, the principal of Bishop Knoll Catholic High School, and the Munster Public School Board who also offered us the use of their gym.

Faced with the responsibility of replacing the building just destroyed, the Council met on January 7 and appointed the following to serve on the building committee: William Jabaay, President, Lawrence Boender, William DeYoung, Martin Jabaay, John Lagestee, Richard Vroom, John VanderNoord, Jacob Walstra, Herman Vander Weide, Edward Ooms, Ralph Pettit, Jacob Haak and Alfred Torrenga. The following were appointed to serve on the finance committee: Martin Boender, President, Sam Vander Wall, Treasurer, William Rooy, John Olthoff, Peter Boender, Clarence Hoeksema, Jerry Van Wieren, Andrew Brink, Duurt Vander Wall, Albert Fennema, Tony Hoekstra, and Peter Kapteyn. Jerry Van Wieren and Herman Vander Weide were ap-



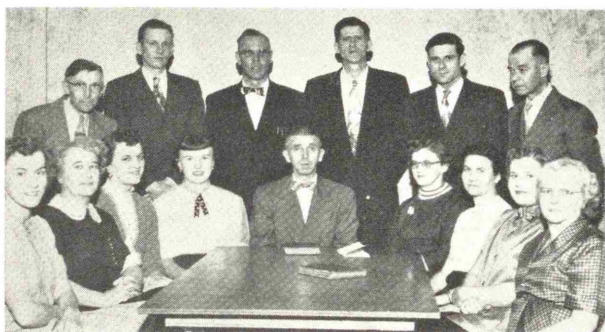
BUILDING COMMITTEE

Seated: L. Boender, J. Walstra, J. Turner, Wm. Jabaay, E. Ooms, M. Jabaay, J. Haak. — Standing: R. Vroom, J. Van Der Noord, H. Van Der Weide, A. Torrenge (not pictured: J. Lagestee, Wm. De Young)



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Left to Right: D. R. Vander Wall, A. Brink, C. Hoeksema, J. Van Wieren, S. D. Vander Wall, M. Boender, W. Rooy, P. Boender, T. Hoekstra, P. Kapteyn, Al Fennema. (not pictured J. Olthoff)



CENTRAL FURNISHING COMMITTEE

Seated, left to right: Mrs. G. Kats, Mrs. A. Vander Wall, Betty Kamstra, Thelma Ver Beek, D. R. Vander Wall, Mrs. J. Fennema, Mrs. T. Hoekstra, Mrs. G. Boersma, Mrs. W. Klooster. Standing: D. Kamstra, C. Dykstra, C. Hoeksema, C. Zigterman, C. A. Boender, J. Hillegonds.



ORGAN COMMITTEE

Standing: Herman Van Der Weide. — Seated at organ: Jerry Van Wieren

pointed on the Organ Committee, with Andrew Vogel acting as advisor. All these men eagerly accepted the appointments and worked hard to plan for the new church.

On January 11 a special meeting of the Council and the finance and building committees was held at the Lansing Christian School. A general discussion followed about whether we should build on the old site and about the size and cost of the proposed building. As a result of this meeting it was decided to have a drive with a goal of \$50,000.00, and it was suggested that the new building have a seating capacity of 700. At a special congregational meeting held on January 14, the congregation decided to remain at our present location, and to authorize the drive for \$50,000.00. This drive was very successful since \$60,000.00 were pledged.

On April 8, at another meeting of the Council and the building and finance committees, the committees presented their plan for the new church. The building committee also presented a motion to build a new parsonage due to the poor condition of the old one. Both proposals were accepted by the Council, and at a congregational meeting held April 15 they were also approved.

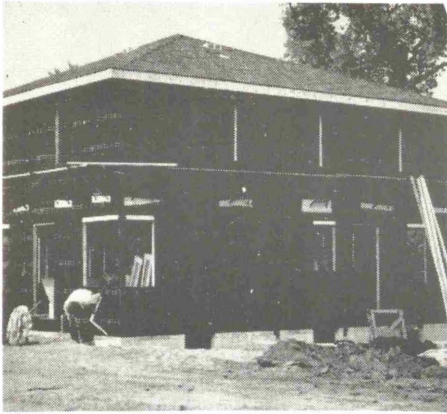
In February, 1952, a congregational dinner served by the ladies of the church was held in the Lutheran School in Lansing to raise funds for the new church. Proceeds from the dinner amounted to \$1,500.00

since the food had been donated by Harry Hoekstra and Jerry Van Wieren.

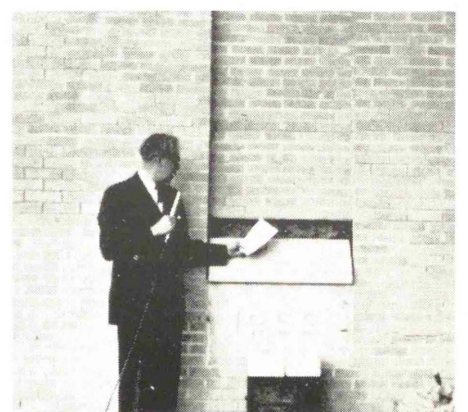
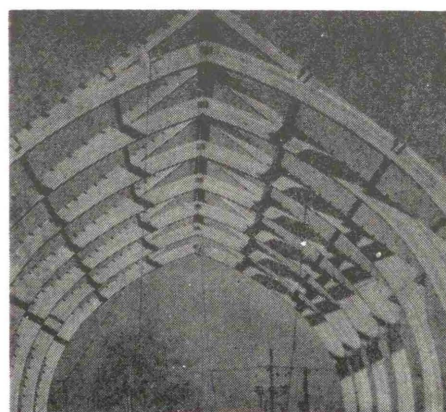
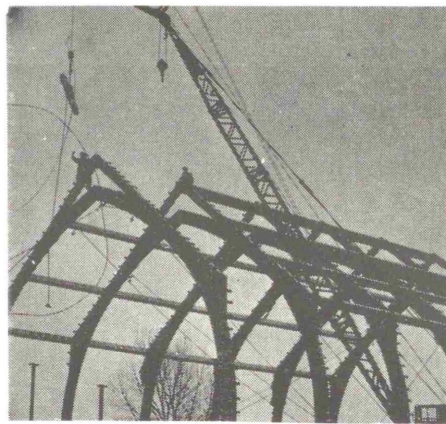
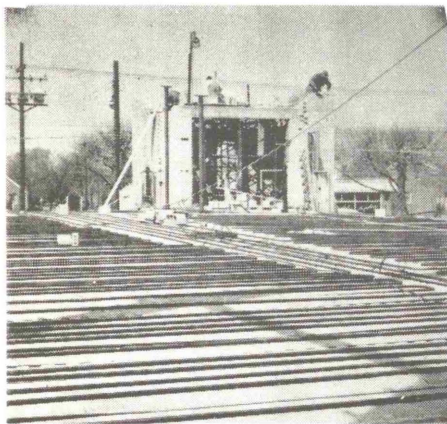
When the cost of our building project turned out to be considerably higher than the estimated cost of \$250,000.00, a special meeting was called. The building committee explained the cost of the entire project, which amounted to \$313,000.00. This added cost was also approved by the congregation. The actual cost of the completed church, parking lot and parsonage amounted to \$316,111.90: church and contents \$194,291.90, parking lot \$2,820.00 and parsonage \$19,000.00. Much of the labor and material for the parsonage was donated. Mr. M. Jongsma supervised the building of the parsonage.

During the summer of 1952 the ruins of the old church were cleared away and in September forms were laid for the foundation of our new edifice. In October the trusses were erected but in February during a severe windstorm they were blown down. Damage was estimated at approximately \$20,000.00, which was covered by insurance. On April 6th the new trusses arrived and by the 30th of the month they were erected.

The church bell for the new building was donated by the Al Bultema and A. Vander Wall families. This bell was cast in 1887 by the Meneely Bell Co. and originally belonged to the Methodist Church of Marcellus, Michigan. The weight of the bell alone is 1,022 lbs.



OUR CHURCH AND PARSONAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION 1952





At a cornerstone-laying service held on May 26, 1953, the following items were placed in a sealed box in the corner stone:

- A complete list of the members.
- A copy of the Banner and De Wachter.
- A copy of our church creed as found in the back of the Psalter Hymnal.
- A booklet of pictures of the fire which destroyed our church building.
- A list of the various societies of our church, of the officers and number of members, also the names of the building and finance committees.
- A statement of the Council members giving thanks to God for His blessings.



CORNER STONE LAYING

Dedication services were held in our new building on February 2, 3, and 4, 1954.

A few things that occurred while we were using the facilities of other churches should be mentioned. Shortly after the fire, a committee was appointed to ask the 1st Highland Church to take over the Holland afternoon service. However, Highland refused since they had just discontinued their own Holland service. The Council then decided that we would finally discontinue our Holland services also. During that same year Miss Aleda Vander Vaart, a registered nurse and a daughter of the congregation, volunteered to be a missionary nurse in Nigeria. The congregation agreed to support her

Dedicatory Service

Tuesday, February 2, 1954, 7:30 P. M.

ORGAN And PIANO DUET - - - - - Mr. and Mrs. J. Van Wieren
SILENT PRAYER
CALL TO WORSHIP - - - - - Rev. J. L. Bult
VOTUM And SALUTATION - - - - - Rev. J. L. Bult
APOSTLES CREED — (Gloria Patri)
SELECTIONS - - - - - Girls Choir
PRESENTATION OF KEYS

Mr. Wm. Jabaaay, Chairman of Bldg. Comm.
PRESENTATION OF ORGAN KEYS
H. Vander Weide, Chairman of Organ Committee

ACCEPTANCE OF KEYS - Rev. J. L. Bult, Chairman of Consistory
RESPONSIVE DEDICATION - - - Rev. J. L. Bult and Congregation

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord; God has richly blessed us and permitted us thru His grace to build this house of worship. Now we are gathered together in His holy presence to dedicate this building and this organ to Him.

(Congregation will please rise quietly)
Pastor: O God our Father, Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, by whose will we gather for worship, and by whose love we have received the covenant.

All: *To Thee we dedicate this church and organ.*
Pastor: O Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, our Lord and Savior, by whose blood we have been redeemed, and by whose love Thy church has been founded.

All: *To Thee we dedicate this church and organ.*
Pastor: O Holy Spirit, Co-eternal God with the Father and the Son, our Comforter and Sanctifier, by whose inspiration we have been made alive, and by whose love Thy church has been preserved.

All: *To Thee we dedicate this church and organ.*
Pastor: O Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: Blessed Trinity. To Thy Glory and Honor
To Thy praise for evermore.

All: *We dedicate the Munster Christian Reformed Church*
Choir: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Congregation Seated.
ORGAN SELECTIONS - - - - - A. Vogel

Page Sixteen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION - - - - - Rev. J. L. Bult

O, almighty and everlasting God, thou dwellest not in temples made with hands, neither art thou worshipped with men's hands, as though thou needest anything, seeing that thou givest to all life and breath and all things; when we bring thee our best, we serve thee only with what is thine own; and when we have done all, we are but unprofitable servants. Yet do thou, O Lord, who delightest thyself in the praises of the Sanctuary, accept the offering of this house which we thy people have builded to the glory of thy Holy Name. We consecrate it to Thee, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, to be henceforth the House of God, and a gate of heaven: we set it apart from all common and worldly uses, for a temple and sanctuary, where the prayers of the church shall be made unto thee without ceasing; where thy high praises shall be devoutly sung; where thy ordinances of thy Word shall be duly administered; to which thy people shall throng with cheerful steps. How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts! I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord.
Amen.

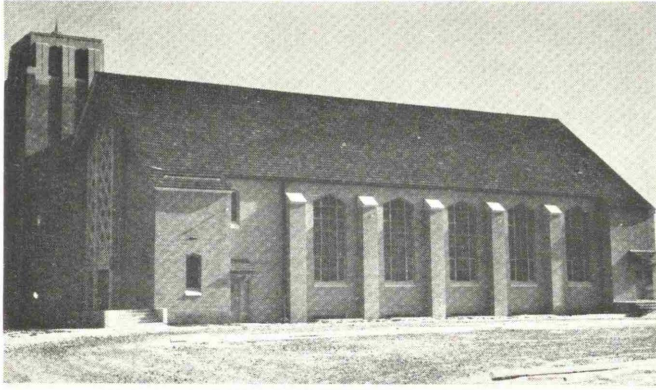
HYMN—Psalter Hymnal No. 331
SERMON - - - - - Rev. J. L. Bult
SELECTION - - - - - Hammond Community Chapel
GREETING - - - - - Mr. D. Aardsma, Supt. of Community Chapel
PSALM 68 vs. 10: (Dutch) - English Version Psalter 131, Verse 5

Geloofd zij God met diepst ontzag
Hij overlaadt ons dag aan dag
Met zijne gunstbewijzen;
Die God is onze zaligheid,
Wie zou die hoogste Majesteit
Dan niet met eerbied prijzen?
Die God is onz een God van Heil
Hij schenkt, uit goedheid, zonder peil
Onz't eeuwig zalig leven.
Hij kan, en wil, en zal in nood
Zelfs bij het naderen van den dood,
Volkomen uitkomst geven

GREETINGS - - - - - Sons of the Congregation
Dr. H. Meeter, Rev. A. Jabaaay, Dr. F. Klooster
ORGAN SELECTIONS - - - - - A. Vogel
GREETINGS - - - - - Former Ministers
Rev. Van Baalen, Rev. W. Borgman, Rev. G. Postema
CLASSIS CHICAGO SOUTH - - - - - Rev. Arnoys
OFFERING to Defray Expenses—Psalter Hymnal No. 328
BENEDICTION - - - - - Rev. C. Van Schouwen
DOXOLOGY

After the service the Church will be open for inspection

Page Seventeen



COMPLETED CHURCH



COMPLETED PARSONAGE

with the sum of \$1,000.00 a year, this being one-half of her salary.

A Mission Board was appointed by the Council in January of 1953, with a membership of six persons, two of whom were Council members. Its functions at that time were supporting the Community Sunday School and furthering the cause of missions in the territory surrounding our church. Throughout the past years, the Mission Board, now consisting of 15 members, has become involved in many activities.

In 1967, the Board organized a Saturday morning Bible Class for children of our church not attending a Christian School, and for children of the community. During that year, they were also instrumental in the planning of our local S.W.I.M. program (Summer Workshop in Missions). Among their many evangelistic projects are manning a booth at the Lake County Fair, welcoming new residents to Munster, distributing tracts, and corresponding with radio listeners.

About a year after we had moved into our new church, on January 3, 1955, the Council decided to purchase the vacant lot located just south of our west side parking lot. This purchase was made for future expansion.

The following month Rev. Bult announced that he was accepting a call to serve the Christian Reformed Church of Pease, Minnesota. He had served our congregation from 1949 to 1955, so it was during his ministry that our congregation experienced the disastrous fire of 1952. Due to his unique leadership, a spirit of unity existed in the congregation during those trying days.

During our vacancy the following ministers were called: Revs. L. Veltkamp, H. Evenhouse, B. J. Haan, and W. Buursma. Rev. Buursma accepted our call and was installed on October 25, 1955, ending a vacancy of a little over six months. Before he came, it was decided at a congregational meeting in May, 1955, to replace the frame garage behind the parsonage with a new brick garage and breezeway and to improve the east side parking lot at a cost of \$9,000.00.



REV. WM. BUURSMAN

Shortly after this, Rev. C. Van Schouwen, our associate pastor, accepted an appointment to serve at Dordt College, in Sioux Center, Iowa. At the request of the Illiana Christian High School Board a call was extended to Rev. Edward Bossenbroek to serve as Bible teacher at Illiana and to become our associate pastor. He accepted this call and is serving in both capacities at the present time.

In September, 1956, the Mr. & Mrs. Club was organized by Rev. Buursma. It was well attended and is still in existence, meeting monthly for fellowship and study of the Word.

Because several churches in the area were becoming overcrowded, the Bethel Christian Reformed Church was organized in May, 1958, Twenty-four families or a total of 108 individuals left our church to affiliate with this new congregation. The Council gave a \$22,000.00 donation to the new church to help it get started.

That same year our Junior Choir was organized. They presented their first number at a Sunday evening service on March 1, 1959. This choir, under the capable leadership of Mrs. Jerry Van Wieren, is very active and contributes regularly to our evening services.

In February, 1959, a Student Fund was established by the Council to give financial assistance to members of our church who desire to enter the Christian teaching profession or who feel called to the ministry. In another effort to help in the expansion of the Kingdom, the local mission board advised the Council in the fall of that year that Radio Station WYCA-FM would be willing to broadcast our Sunday evening service from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Council accepted this proposal and a contract was signed for a one-year period at a cost of \$34.00 a week. The station agreed to broadcast special services at no extra cost. Free-will offerings were to cover the cost of this venture, which was the beginning of our regular Sunday evening "Call to Worship Hour."

At the Council meeting of April 13, 1961, several important items were decided: the church parking lot was to be black-topped at a cost of \$9,400.00, a dinner was to be given to honor Mrs. Peter Ridder for serving our Sunday School for 35 years as a teacher, a nursery was organized for the morning service, the Cadet and Calvinette Corps were organized, and permission was given to the newly Westminster Presbyterian Church of Munster to use our church building each Sunday from 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. until their building program was completed. Almost four years later, at the morning service of March 28, 1965, a representative of this church presented our congregation with 350 new Psalter Hymnals in appreciation for the use of our facilities.

On July 3, 1963, Rev. Buursma, after declining several calls, announced to the congregation that he had accepted the call to become the pastor of the Bethel Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He preached his farewell sermon on August 25. Rev. Buursma had served our congregation from 1955 to 1963. During his ministry the church experienced a steady growth, the Bethel Christian Reformed Church was organized, new organizations were started and we began our radio broadcast.

At the congregational meeting held July 30, 1963, it was decided to call Rev. L. Bazuin to become our pastor. When the good news came that our first call had been accepted, the congregation was elated. Rev. Bazuin was installed on Sunday, October 13, with the Revs. E. Haan and G. Boerfyn taking part in this service. Rev. Bossenbroek presided.



REV. L. A. BAZUIN

In November of that year the Council informed the Foreign Mission Board that we wanted to become the calling and supporting church for a missionary, our support to amount to \$4,000.00 a year. Because no foreign mission field was open at this time, it was decided to help support four missionaries to the extent of \$1,000.00 each per year beginning on December 1, 1963, until a new foreign field was opened. Shortly thereafter the Foreign Mission Board informed our Council that a field would be opened in Comodore Rivadavia, Chubut, Argentina, and that we therefore could call a missionary who would labor in this field. Calls were extended to the following men: Revs. A. Van Eck, E. Los, G. Ebberts and Dr. Sidney Rooy. Dr. Rooy accepted our call and was installed on August 8, 1965, at the morning service. He preached his inaugural sermon at the evening service. The evening before, a get-acquainted reception had been held with Council members and relatives. After a period of further preparatory study, the Rooy family left the United States on February 8, 1966 to begin the work in Argentina.

Since our mission effort was now directed to Argentina, a \$2,000.00 contribution was given to the World Home Bible League for the purchase of Spanish Bibles, New Testaments and religious literature for the Argentine field. Somewhat later it was also decided to support Rev. J. W. Dykstra at the Toadlena, New Mexico, Indian field to the extent of \$1,000.00 a year. After Rev. Dykstra left this field, this support was given to Rev. J. Hoffman, Jr. who was stationed at Ft. Wingate, New Mexico. On July 17, 1966, Rev. Hoffman and his family spent the day with us, conducting the morning service and showing pictures of his work after the evening service.

In 1965 our mission program expanded further when we became a participating church at the Seamen's Mission at Calumet Harbor. Many members of our congregation still participate in the Seamen's Mission's activities and invite sailors from many foreign countries into their homes and to our church services.



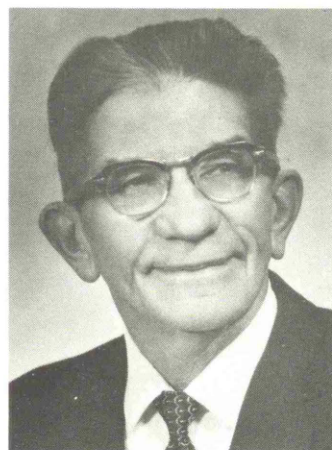
SEAMEN'S MISSION

In the fall of that year a Mission Emphasis Week was held. The general topic was foreign missions. Meetings began on Sunday evening with the Rev. C. Van Ens conducting the evening service and afterwards showing pictures of his work at Ceylon. Mid-week meetings were also held, ending with a congregational hostess dinner on Friday evening, where Dr. Rooy spoke to us.

At the close of the 1965 fiscal year, the debt on the church building had been paid. A mortgage burning ceremony was held at the New Year's Eve Service, where we gratefully remembered God's blessings, for within 13 years the entire debt had been paid.



MORTGAGE BURNING



MR. C. BOENDER

During this same year our faithful custodian, Mr. C. Boender, retired after 33 years of service. He was honored at an open house in the church basement. Mr. Roger De Mik filled this vacancy.

The following proposals were adopted at the congregational meeting held December 12, 1966: We would

1. extend our evening broadcast time 15 minutes.
2. engage a seminarian for the summer of 1967 at a cost of \$1,000.00.
3. become the calling and supporting church for a second foreign missionary to the extent of \$2,000.00.
4. install a new ceiling and folding doors in the basement auditorium and Room 3, giving us eight additional classrooms.
5. begin two morning services on a trial basis. The first service was to begin at 8:45 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and the second service at 11:00 a.m. These services began March 12, 1967.

The foreign Mission Field for our second missionary would not open until 1968, so it was decided that we engage and support a seminarian to serve at Anchorage, Alaska, for one year. Mr. R. Vander Ley accepted this appointment.

During this year a tragic and shocking loss was felt by the congregation. The first and only serviceman from our congregation to sacrifice his life for our country in the entire century of our church's existence was Richard Schroeder, who died in Vietnam on July 14, 1966. A service men's plaque was presented in his memory.

In June, 1967, the Foreign Mission Board informed the Council that the work in Brazil would be extended and suggested that we become the calling and supporting church for a missionary to this field. Candidate Simon Wolfert accepted the call we extended to him. He was examined by Classis Illiana on May 14 and was ordained into the ministry on May 31. He preached his inaugural sermon at both morning services on Sunday, June 2, 1968. Later that month he and his family left

for Brazil and are now working to extend the Kingdom there.

During the summer of 1967, Seminarian R. Rienstra was engaged to conduct the Daily Vacation Bible School and to work with the local Team in neighborhood evangelism. During the same summer support was given to Adrian Pater, a son of the congregation, who was engaged as a Christian Service Corporation worker at Salt Lake City, Utah.

In January, 1968 Rev. Bazuin was granted a brief leave of absence to serve on an interdenominational preaching team on the island of Jamaica. The inspiration he received from this assignment was felt by the entire congregation when he returned.



MR. JACK GRAY, SEMINARY INTERN

On April 12, 1968 the congregation decided to engage a seminary intern for one year to serve as a pastoral assistant. Mr. Jack Gray, then a

student at Calvin Seminary, accepted our appointment. After Jack's term expired, we felt it wise to continue with an intern program and so Mr. Tom Dykman was engaged to assist the pastor during the second year of this program. At present we are also supporting Miss Tee Grootenhuis, a volunteer worker at the Sauk Village Christian Reformed Church.

As in apparent, under the leadership of Rev. Bazuin we have had a continually growing mission emphasis in our church. The emphasis is not only on foreign missions but on neighborhood evangelism as well. With the introduction of the intern program we have been able to canvass the area surrounding our church and so invite people to worship with us. Rev. Bazuin also helped form two new organizations in our church. The one is the Sunday Evening Bible Study Group, which consists of couples and individuals meeting in homes once a month for Bible study. The other new organization is the Men's Prayer Breakfast. These men meet every Wednesday morning at 6:45 for study and prayer, especially for current needs, before they leave for work.

Now we are in 1970, our Centennial Year. The week of September 20 through 27 has been set aside for celebration activities. Certainly this is a time of rejoicing and thanksgiving. It must also be a season of self-examination and re-dedication. As we look back, we give honor and respect to our forefathers who endured many trials and hardships. A precious heritage has been left to us through their faith and works. In order to meet the challenge of the future, we need like men of strong faith, great courage and broad vision of God's dealings with His people. But, more than through the work of men's hands, our church has grown and prospered through God's blessings and guidance. To Him be all glory and honor! To Him we lift our hearts in grateful praise! To Him we pray for future wisdom, strength and love!

Hitherto
hath
the Lord
helped us.

1 Samuel 7:12

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PARSONAGE WINDOW



On September 16, 1926, a family of four plus a "chow-dog" stepped off the Erie train at Hammond, Indiana. This family, a minister, his wife, and two daughters, had left the parsonage at Passaic, New Jersey, the previous day and were in route to their new home and church at Munster, Indiana. The Erie train had been an acquaintance of theirs also, since the Erie roadbed was only a short distance from the church and parsonage in Passaic and the shrill screech of the steam whistle had often annoyed them.

Prior to their arrival, the minister had had a very difficult time deciding what to do about the "call" to the Munster church. The day of decision had come and since it was Thursday, the answer must be mailed that day in order for it to reach Munster in time for the Sunday announcement. Early in the morning the typewriter had banged and rattled and at last the letter was ready for mailing. Upon return from the corner mail box, the "Juffrouw" asked, "Did you mail the letter? What did you decide about it?" He said, "No, I didn't mail it. I wrote a letter of "decline" but at the box I couldn't mail it. Now I'll write a letter of acceptance." This he did and he never regretted that decision. Many times later a similar decision had to be made but never with such difficulty.

Upon our arrival at the Hammond depot our genial host, Mr. Dingeman Jabaay, greeted us heartily and soon we were in route to our new home. As we traveled south down Hohman Avenue we neared the Calumet River. A short distance further south we could see the church with the steeple and the Christian school, which stood to the west of the church. The land between Hammond and Munster was still farm acreage and only a very few homes lined Hohman Avenue. As Ridge Road came into view, we got our first glimpse of our new home, the Munster parsonage. Across from this were a small group of new homes and several large farm houses.

Between the church and parsonage was a large yard and on it stood the "pump-house" (pomp-hokje) which supplied the parsonage and school with water. The water tank was in the attic of the parsonage, but there was no water at the church, nor at the "old chapel" which also stood in the rear of the church.

This small chapel was used for meetings and catechisms classes and was heated by a tall, cast-iron pot-bellied stove. On very cold evenings the meetings were held around the stove. The chapel furnishings were very bare with old wooden benches;

a minimum of equipment was available. However, there was always a feeling of "gezelligheid" at the meetings held there. It was there also that the "Kerkeraad" or Consistory members met, at their regular monthly meetings and at the pre-service gatherings each Sunday, since there was no basement room suitable for use.

To the rear of the parsonage stood a large wooden structure called the horse-barn. As was customary in those days, most of the people had horse-and-buggy transportation and this large barn was used to house the horses during services. This barn was a joy to the children since it lent itself beautifully to "hide and seek" and rainy-day games. It was also a fine overnight sleeping place for the many bums who came along the Ridge, begging a meal in those sparse days.

Since there was no young men's society, one of the first projects of the new minister was to organize such a group. Because a good meeting-place was not available, these young men and their pastor were permitted to fix up a small room next to the furnace room under the church. Here they met regularly and the Pastor often said, "Here I can learn to know my boys, and if we can keep our young men, the young women will remain with us also." Some time later a Munster Girls' Society was organized. It was arranged for them to meet on the same evenings on which the boys met and for them the chapel became available.

Many other organizations had their start at this time, including the Daily Vacation Bible School. We often wonder whether such projects do bear fruit. Let me tell you about Jeanie. Jeanie came from the hills of Kentucky and was visiting relatives at Independence Park. With the other children she attended our Sunday School for three Sundays that first summer. We did not see her again until the following summer when she again visited with her relatives. She told us then, "Until I came here, I had never heard about God, nor the Bible, nor Jesus, nor had I gone to church. I didn't know anything. Now I am living with my aunt in Detroit and she has been taking me to church and Sunday School. There I'm getting acquainted with God and the Bible and God's Kingdom."

While attending a mission school, she met a young man who was preparing to go into the service of the Lord and was eager to go to a foreign field. Some years later she wrote us that the two of them were ready to go to a foreign mission field of their church in Mexico. They have been active in this

field for many years and have received much joy and many blessings in their work.

So often we are in doubt about new ventures, but we also believe that "God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform." When God's Spirit touches the hearts of His children there are no limits to the work of the King. We may trust in His promise - "My Word shall not return to me void." (Isa. 55:11).

Even now, as we stand at the threshold of a new century, we, as the old church at Munster, still look to God for new work and new opportunities to promote His work in this community. With confidence in His promises we dare to go forward, guided by His Spirit, ever moving onward, from an old-fashioned mode of living and old-fashioned ideas to new challenges and new opportunities of a new day.

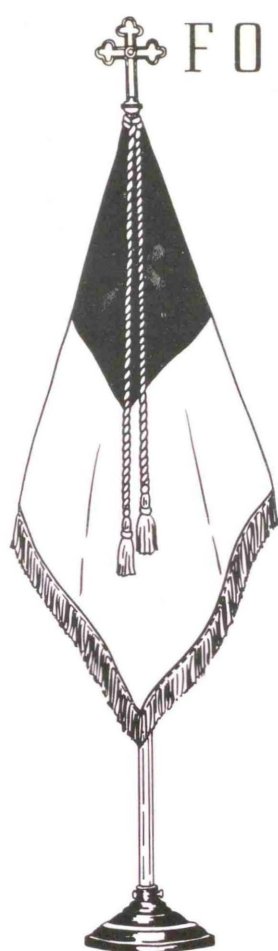
We have moved from horse and buggy and Model-T days to days of fast, luxurious cars. We have moved from ice blocks to ice cubes, from hand-fired stoves and furnaces to modern push-button heating equipment and automation, from a limited water-supply to a copious supply of water for sprinkling systems, from small and dreary rooms to a remodeled church, from a "burned-down church" to a modern church building, from a limited church group to a church filled to capacity.

There have been growing pains and heartaches caused by the many changes, but our good people ever tried to do their task with true devotion and dedicated zeal, doing all to the glory of God.

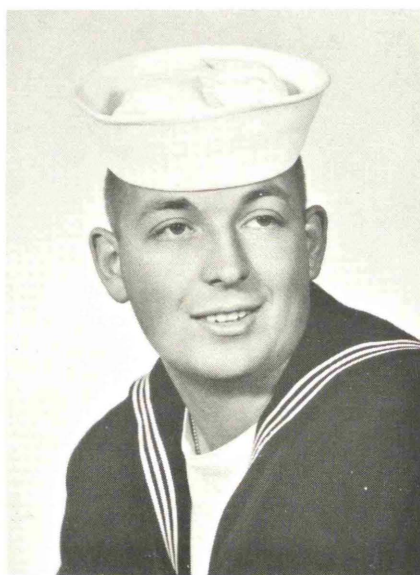
So, as we go over the past, we also have the promise of joy for the future. God has blessed this church with countless gifts of His love. He has called many of the members for special service in His church. Even now as the new century comes into focus this church moves forward in the Master's Name. We join in the song of the church:

My God, how wonderful Thou art!
Thy majesty, how bright!
How beautiful Thy mercy seat
In depths of burning light!
Yet, I may love Thee too, o Lord,
Almighty as Thou art;
For Thou hast stooped to ask of me
The love of my poor heart!

(Mrs. J. H.) Sibyl Monsma



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY



RICHARD SCHROEDER
BORN MAY 25, 1942 DIED JULY 14, 1966

After Richard's death in Viet Nam, the following letter was found in his personal effects:

I don't know what to say. I have a feeling that this patrol will be it. The other patrols I've been on haven't bothered me at all. This feeling I have is very troubling. If something happens to me it will mean that I won't be able to fulfill what I wanted to do in my life. But if something happens I know that I have done what God put me here for. I just hope that it was for something good.

If something happens please send this note to my home. It isn't very good because I am sitting on the beach at night. The night before I go on patrol. I love my parents and brother and sister. I want to tell them that I volunteered for everything that I have done. For Vietnam, for Marines, for Reconnaissance. They think different. Please forgive me if you are angry, but I had a feeling that there was a reason that I should come here. Maybe just to die or maybe for something else. What ever it will be the Lord's way.

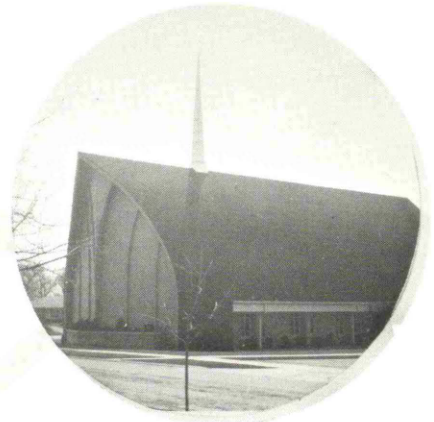
These people of Vietnam need a country such as ours to show them the way to living peacefully. They have been at war for a long time and probably understand nothing else. I just pray to the Lord to give me a little more time in this short life to give me some more time to help these people and our American soldiers and our cause for peace in the world. And that God will grant that the world will have peace until the final day of judgment. I hold nothing against anyone.

Dick

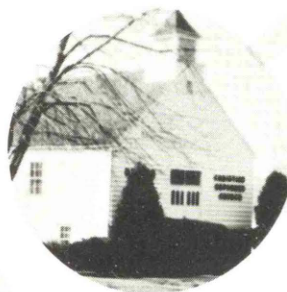
OUR CHURCH FAMILY



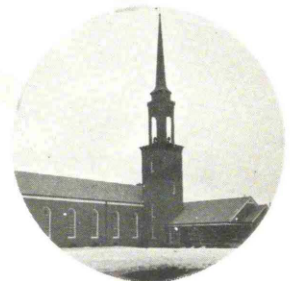
Munster



1st Highland



Beacon Light



2nd Highland



1st Lansing



Hammond



Sauk Village



Oak Glen



Bethel

Elders of the Century — 1870-1970

John Vogel
Thomas Smit
Cornelis De Witte
Cornelis Klootwyk
Gerrit Eenigenberg
Leendert Jabaay
Harm Bruigen
F. B. Vanden Hoek
Jan Glindhorst
Adam Ooms
Albert Kleinhuizen
Peter Schoon
Peter Dykstra
Jacob Prins
John Meeter
Joris Eenigenberg
G. De Jong
Frank Visser
John Moes
Eкке Vander Wall
H. Boonstra
Bartel Zandstra
Wiebern Terpstra
Jacob Porte
Homer De Jong
Alje Fennema
Sam Boonstra
John De Vries
Harm Ebbens
Dingeman A. Jabaay
John Lich
Peter Ridder
Theodore Hoekstra
N. Birza
Bartel O. Zandstra
Aldrich Recker
Sika Norman
Menzo Scholten
Andrew Fennema
Jacob Van Schouwen Sr.
Fred Klooster

Jacob Dekker
Klaas Hoeksema
Andrew Vander Wall
Henry Klooster
Jacob Dykstra Sr.
Dick Kamstra
William Klooster
Cornelius Bultema
Edward C. Ooms
Art De Boer
Peter Postma
Jacob Hillegonds
Harold Hoekstra
Richard Vroom
Peter Kapteyn
Jacob Lagestee
Tony Hoekstra
Nick Van Heest
Duurt R. Vander Wall
Herman Vander Weide
Lawrence Boender
Gerrit Koenes
Dick Ham
Martin Boender
Rev. Edward Bossenbroek
Clarence Zigterman
Frank De Vries
Peter Zeldenrust
Jacob Kats
William Jabaay
Paul Molendyk
Jerry Van Wieren
William De Young
Peter Dykstra
Sam D. Vander Wall
William Smits
Clarence Hoeksema
Peter Wiers
Lawrence Bultema
Peter Kruis
Sylvester Meeter
George Bush

**LET THE ELDERS THAT RULE WELL
BE COUNTED WORTHY OF DOUBLE HONOR**

I. TIM 5:17

Deacons of the Century — 1870-1970

Gerrit Eenigenberg
 Adam Ooms
 Leendert Jabaay
 Dirk Zijp
 Jan Den Hartog
 John Eenigenberg
 Barend Zwets
 Klaas Van Heest
 Peter Schoon
 Michael Vander Aa
 Jan Jonker
 Peter Molenaar
 Joris Eenigenberg
 Jan Veenstra
 Harm Bultema
 T. Terpstra
 John Moes
 Frank Visser
 Ekke Vander Wall
 Reinder P. Vander Wall
 John Dekker
 Sam Vander Wall
 Ite Van Til
 Dingeman A. Jabaay
 John De Vries
 Fred Klooster
 Anthony Meeter
 John Ooms
 Bartel O. Zandstra
 Albert Flym
 N. Birza
 Henry Lanting
 Jacob Hielema
 Bert Boomsma
 Henry C. Zeldenrust
 George Van Dyk
 Henry Klooster
 Jacob Dekker
 Peter Lanting
 Cornelius Bultema
 Dick Kamstra
 William Klooster
 Peter Boender
 Edward C. Ooms
 Andrew Vander Wall
 Cornelius Swets
 Martin Boender
 John Harkema
 Conrad Hoekstra
 Richard Seeman
 John Klooster
 Art De Boer
 Richard Vroom
 Frank Oostra
 Harold Hoekstra
 Henry Boender
 Ralph Van Dyk

William Smits
 Herman Vander Weide
 Peter Postma
 Jacob Lagestee
 Andrew Brink
 Duurt R. Vander Wall
 Nick Van Heest
 Tony Hoekstra
 Frank De Vries
 Daniel Poortinga
 Sam D. Vander Wall
 John Sytsma
 John Fennema
 Jacob Walstra
 Joe Norman
 Clarence Zigterman
 Gerard Ooms
 Tom Van Dyke
 Harry Van Schouwen
 Alfred Bultema
 George Boersma
 Peter Zeldenrust
 Jacob Kats
 Neil Carley
 Jacob Dykstra Jr.
 Russel Bultema
 Lawrence Bultema
 George Bush
 Albert (Bud) Fennema
 William De Young
 Case Dykstra
 Charles H. Boender
 Fred Sytsma
 Louis Dekker
 Theodore Hoogewerf
 Gerald Rinkema
 Robert Groen
 James H. Smit
 Peter Dykstra Jr.
 Francis Vander Wall
 Frederick J. Robinson
 Glen Jabaay
 Jack Van Prooyen
 James Dekker
 Clayton De Vries
 Ronald Zigterman
 Robert Fennema
 John M. Dykstra
 Peter Ham
 Gerhardt Friesema
 Ronald Natelborg
 Robert Jabaay
 Tom De Vries
 Henry Van Prooyen
 Marshall Van Schouwen
 Ted Koning

. . . . AND THEY CHOSE STEPHEN A MAN FULL OF FAITH
 AND OF THE HOLY GHOST ACTS 6:5

THE GREATER



Rev. L. Bazuin



Charles Boender



Martin Boender



George Boersma



Rev. E. Bossenbroek



Cornelius Bultema



James Dekker



Louis Dekker



Clayton De Vries



Frank De Vries



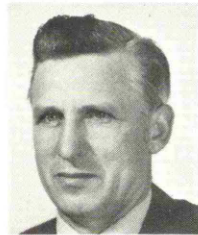
Tom De Vries



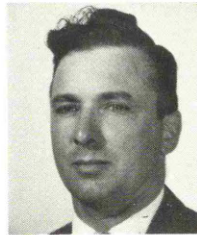
William De Young



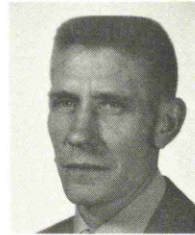
Andrew Fennema



John Fennema



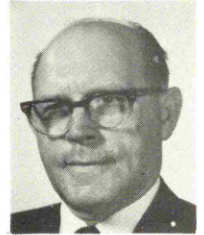
Robert Fennema



Gerhardt Friesema



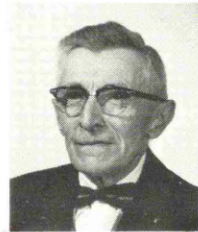
Robert Groen



Dick Ham



William Jabaay



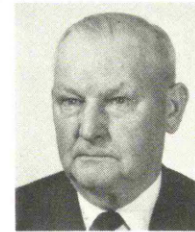
Dick Kamstra



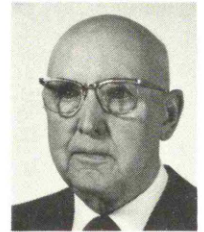
Peter Kapteyn



Jacob Kats



Henry Klooster



William Klooster



Joe Norman



Edward Ooms



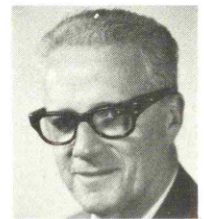
Gerard Ooms



Frank Oostra



Gerald Rinkema



Fred Robinson



Sam Vander Wall



Thomas Van Dyke



Nick Van Heest



Jack Van Prooyen



Henry Van Proyen



Harry Van Schouwen

CONSISTORY



Lawrence Bultema



Russel Bultema



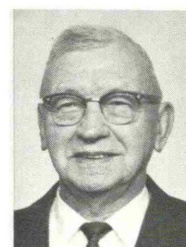
George Bush



Neill Carley



Art De Boer



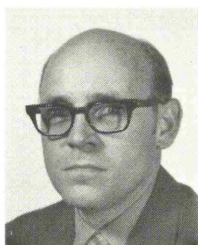
Jacob Dekker



Cornelius Dykstra



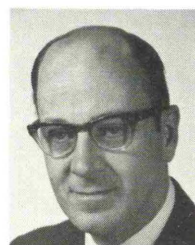
Jacob Dykstra



John M. Dykstra



Peter Dykstra, Jr.



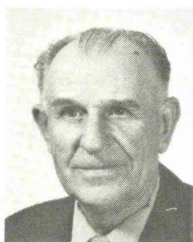
Peter M. Dykstra



Albert Fennema



Peter Ham



John Harkema



Clarence Hoeksema



Theodore Hoogerwerf



Glenn Jabaay



Robert Jabaay



Theodore Koning



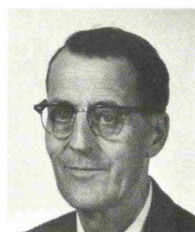
Peter Kruis



Jacob Lagestee



Sylvester Meeter



Paul Molendyk



Ronald Natelborg



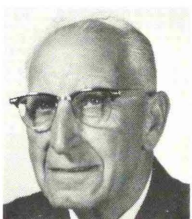
James Smit



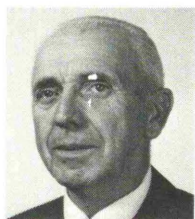
William Smits



Fred Sytsma



Andrew Vander Wall



Duurt Vander Wall



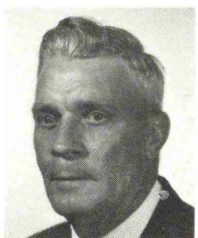
Dr. F. Vander Wall



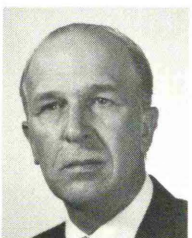
Marshall Van Schouwen



Jerry Van Wieren



Richard Vroom



Peter Wiers



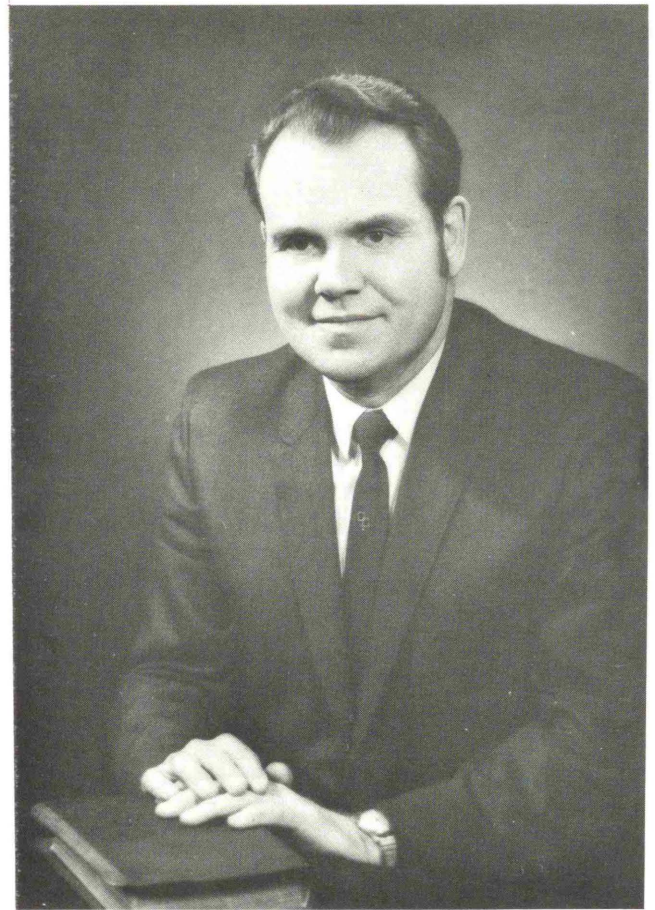
Clarence Zigterman



Ronald Zigterman

(Not pictured - Jacob Hillegonds)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

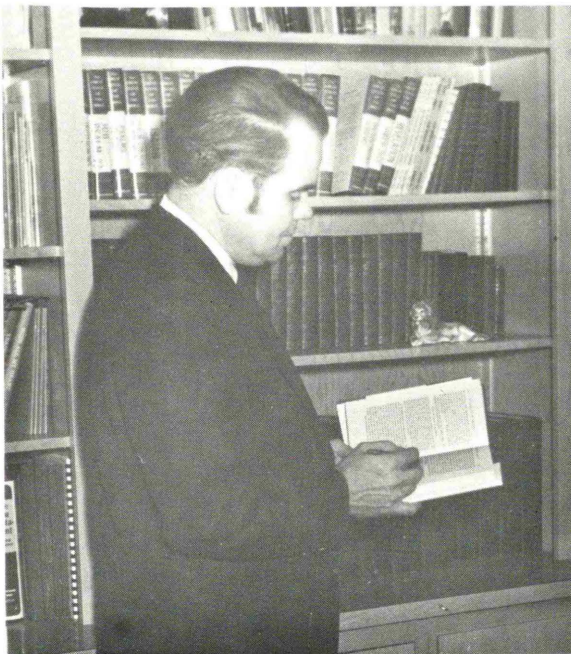


Dear Congregation,

I would like to have a brief heart-to-heart chat with you from my study. I say "my study" but it is really "your study." For 100 years this room, or one just like it, has had very much to do with the direction the Munster Church is facing today.

The church study today is quite different from what it was in the days of Rev. Borgman and Rev. Zwier. Today I am surrounded by a library of theological books; so were the former pastors. But in the first years of our history almost every book in the Pastor's library was Dutch, whereas now of course there are very few Dutch volumes. Formerly all sermons written in the study were in Dutch but now all are in English. There must have been many prayers in the Pastor's study in those days over the language controversy. If handled poorly, this controversy could have done irreparable damage to the church.

Throughout the years the study of the Munster Church has been in the parsonage rather than in the church. However, in previous years it was an isolated room on the second floor, and so it was quite inaccessible. Today the study is on the main floor and has a private entrance that makes it readily possible



for parishoners to come and see the Pastor. This is so important because this is the age when the Pastor must do a large amount of counseling. Young people come with courtship and pre-marital problems and with spiritual and vocational problems. Older parishoners come with their heartaches and disappointments; sometimes life has become empty and meaningless for them. As he works with his congregation, the Pastor's main tool is the Word of God; hundreds of prayers are offered in this room for many different kinds of needs and problems.

Without a doubt the most important work that goes on in this room is the study of Holy Scripture. The Church of Christ remains strong and grows only as long as pastors properly present the Word. I have noticed in my ministry the difficulty of always looking at the Bible as the Word of God; sometimes through continued handling it becomes a mere textbook. However, for 100 years sermons have been made in this study, and thanks be to God, to this day they are based squarely upon the Word of God. The types and styles of the sermons may have changed. In the "old days" they were much longer; frequently they were theological dissertations or lectures. As time has passed, the attention span of listeners has decreased and consequently so has the length of the sermon. Today the emphasis is on making the sermon pointed and relevant to present needs.

I would like to say again that no room on all the property of the church has had as much influence on the direction of the congregation as this room. It is my earnest prayer that in the future this room will not just become a "church office" but will always remain a place of prayer and study of the Word of God. I have a plaque on my wall which describes this study:

"The Pastor's study is a symbol of the calling of the Christian minister to be the shepherd of the flock of God. Here, sermons are prepared to feed the congregation on God's Holy Word. Here, the work of the church is planned so that the congregation may grow in grace and bear fruit in service, fellowship, teaching and witnessing. Here, you will always find a friend and counselor in time of need. He will not be surprised at your sins, nor will he judge you in them, but he always invites you to share with him the wisdom and love of God, the knowledge of forgiveness of sins and the saving grace of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. You are always welcome."

I am most delighted to be the Pastor in this study at the time of our Centennial. I pledge to you with all my heart that I still believe I am lawfully called of God's Church and of God Himself to this holy office and to serve this congregation. I also want to assure you that without reservation I believe the writings of the Old and New Testaments to be the only Word of God and that in them is the complete doctrine of salvation. Finally I want to pledge anew

that with the help of God I will diligently discharge the duties of my office and will endeavor to adorn this office with a godly life.

Besides this study room there are all the rooms necessary for family life here in the parsonage. These are unforgettable years for our family. All our children have gone through their important formative years here in Munster. Our two oldest, Dan and Lou Anne, have announced Christ as Savior while living here on Ridge Road.

In closing I want to say: Dear Congregation of Christ, congratulations on your Centennial! May all honor and praise be given to Christ forever and ever!

Your Pastor,
Lugene A. Bazuin



OUR PASTOR'S FAMILY



Daniel Jon
Mary Lynn Lou Anne
Mrs. Bazuin Rev. Bazuin





Elders — 1970



Andrew Vander Wall
Vice President



Lawrence Bultema
Clerk



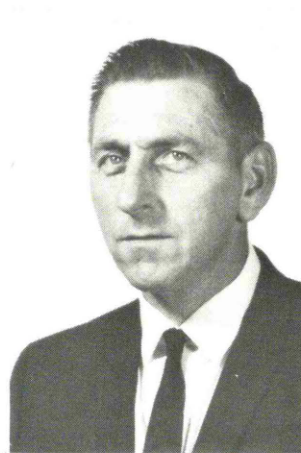
George Bush



Clarence Hoeksema



Peter Kruis



Sylvester Meeter



William Smits



Richard Vroom

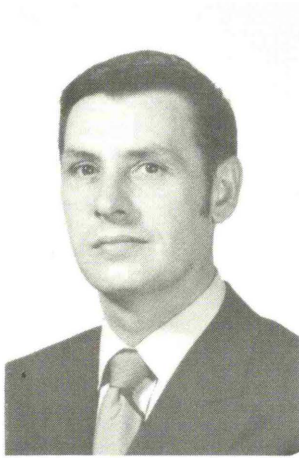


Peter Wiers



Clarence Zigterman

Deacons — 1970



Gerald Rinkema
President



Ronald Natelborg
Vice President



Henry Van Proyen
Treasurer



Robert Jabaay
Secretary



Tom De Vries



John M. Dykstra



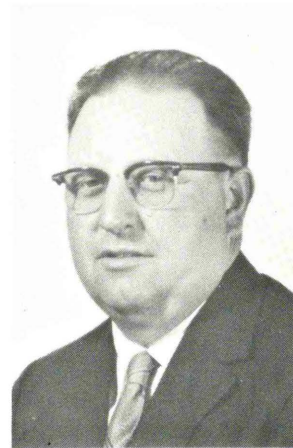
Gerhardt Friesema



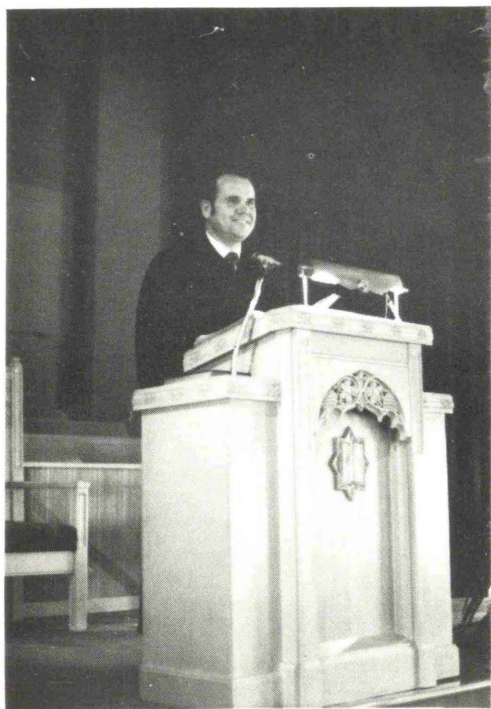
Peter Ham



Theodore Koning



Marshall Van Schouwen

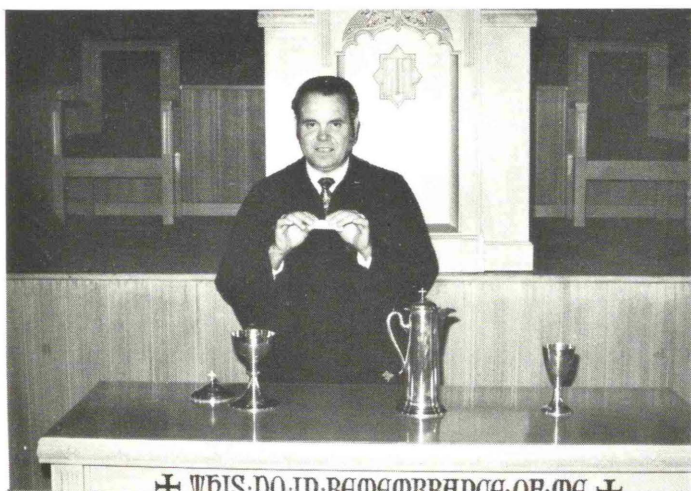


God's Word is faithfully preached.

The Sacraments are
regularly administered.



*" . . into the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*



"The bread which we break . . ."



"The cup which we bless . . ."

Faith in God is publicly professed.

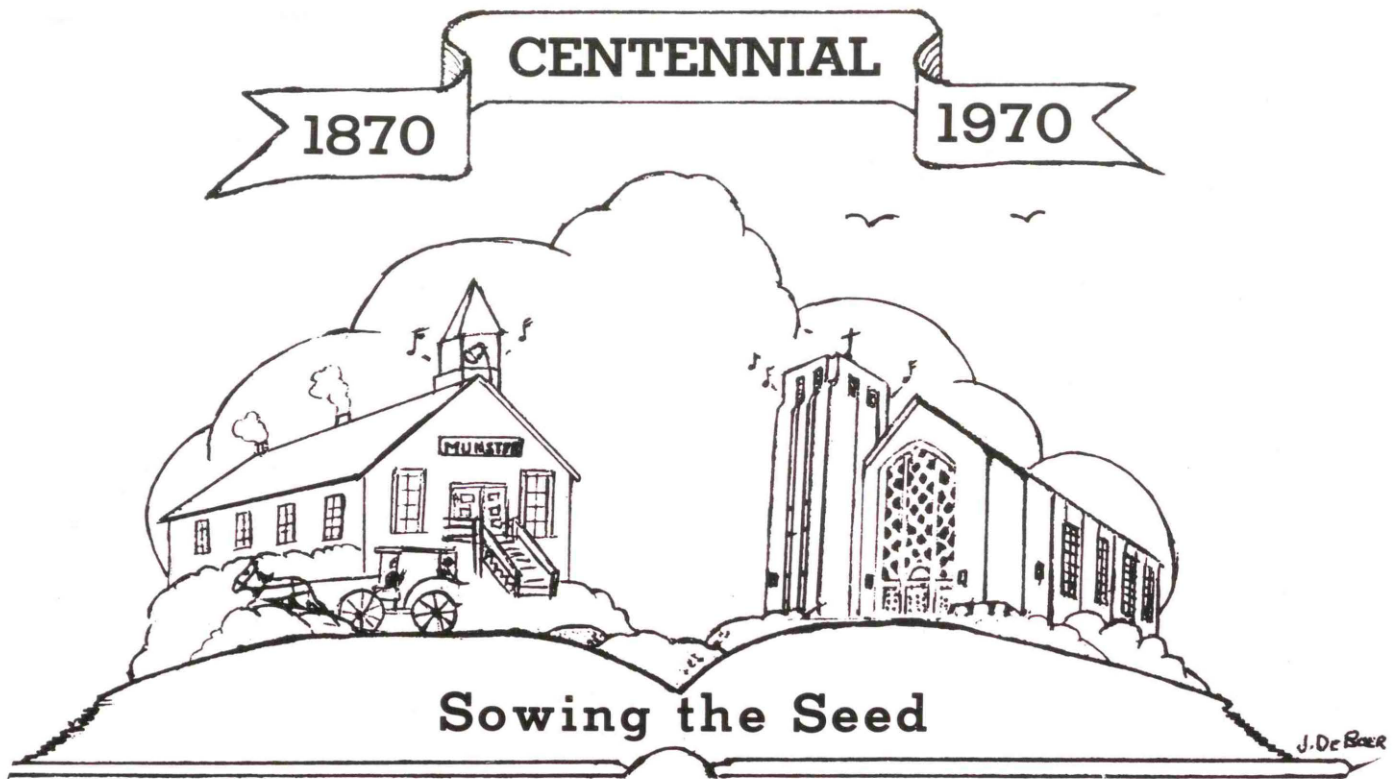


"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men . . . "

Marriage vows are solemnly repeated.



*"What therefore God has
joined together . . . "*



MUNSTER
CALUMET HARBOR

CALL TO WORSHIP HOUR
Sunday Evening
7:00 P.M. 92.3 Mc. FM

BRAZIL
ARGENTINA



**"GO
YE INTO
ALL THE WORLD
AND PREACH THE GOSPEL
TO EVERY CREATURE."**

MARK 16: 15



Our Missionaries

Dear fellow-missionaries,

Yes, you are my fellow-missionaries. Jesus said so: "you are my witnesses" was said to apostles, the women, healed invalids, even to young people and children. Letting our light shine, being a salt and a leaven, bearing fruit are Jesus' ways of telling us that we are all missionaries in the Lord's vineyard.

So we greet you from Argentina in this centennial year. The Reformed churches over here aren't that old yet; the oldest is 70. That's nearly three generations compared to your four. The first generation over here was a people speaking a foreign language: Dutch or South African, not Spanish. The second generation began to attend Spanish schools and to associate with others of the community. The third generation is really beginning to identify with its nation. The generations of Isolation and Transition have brought us to that of Identification.

The history of Munster is the same. These same generations have sat in your pews and faithfully lived the spiritual heritage committed to it. But here the fourth generation has already come of age: the generation of Mission. The older members have planted the seed; the middle-aged are cultivating; and the youth and their children will by God's grace come joyfully bearing harvest blessings.

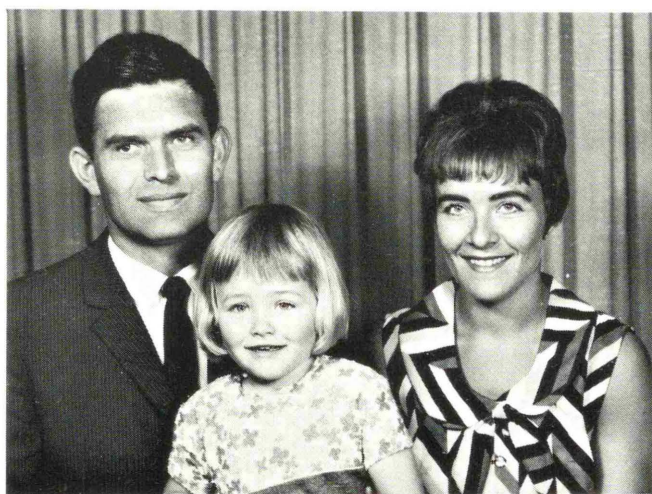
But let's make it more than a **generation** of Mission; let's make it a **century** of Mission. We are the Lord's body, come of age with a wonderful opportunity, to



Dr. & Mrs. Sidney Rooy
Gayle, Diane and Paul

share the gospel. From this distant land Mae, Paul, and Gayle — and from Calvin College, Dianne — all join me in this greeting of congratulations and in a prayer that God may richly bless you, each one.

Your missionary family,
The Rooy's



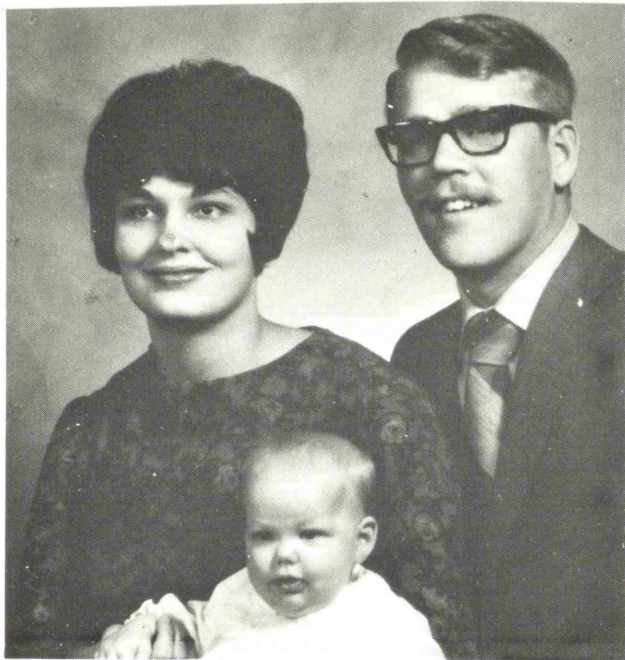
Rev. & Mrs. Simon Wolfert
and Robin Joy

Dear Friends in the Lord Jesus Christ and Members of the Christian Reformed Church of Munster, Indiana:

A few weeks ago we received letters from Rev. Bossenbroek and Mr. Vander Wall requesting and inviting us to participate in your Centennial celebrations. We are very happy to be able to do so. First of all we wish to convey to you our sincere congratulations on this very happy occasion. We thank and praise the Lord for all that He has given you as a church of the Lord Jesus Christ during these first hundred years. We especially thank Him for all that He has given to our Christian Reformed Church and to many people through you, through your church. We hope and pray that the Lord Jesus Christ may continue to use you in a mighty and powerful way. We trust that those living in the community of Munster may hear Jesus Christ speaking through you and may see Christ living in you, and we pray that through your personal testimony and your efforts many a person may come to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and that an impact may be made on the environment round about you. This is our sincere wish and prayer for all of you.

Simon, Jean and Robin Wolfert

Seminarian Intern



Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dykman
and Lori Joy

Dear Friends:

This has been our first opportunity to actively participate in the Ministry of an established church. We regard this as a unique privilege to have been able to participate in this centennial year. It has been a privilege for us to receive education and experience for the Gospel Ministry from a church that has its roots so deeply implanted in history.

There are many things which we have learned from our experience here. One of the things we have learned is that the Church is made up of people. The church of Jesus does not rotate around any group or any one person. This church has lived 100 years because Jesus uses many people to accomplish His purposes. It is our prayer that the many people of Munster Christian Reformed Church will make themselves available to be used by Jesus for His cause and His church in this year and each year that is to come.

Yours in Christ,

The Dykmans,
Tom, Carol, Lori Joy

Associate Pastor

Dear Friends,

To have one's feet planted on a solid rock while all around is sinking sand; to know the truth at a time when multitudes are bewildered; to rejoice in a glorious hope when others predict only gloom; — this is the privilege of membership in the Christian church.

For one hundred years the Munster Christian Reformed Church has spoken of The Rock, The Truth and The Glorious Hope. It is for us who are celebrating her centennial to be thankful for the faithfulness of past generations and to realize anew our obligation and place in the great drama of God's salvation for the world.

All signs indicate that the coming century will be more difficult than the past in which to persevere in the faith. One hardly dares think of one hundred years ahead — we conjecture only for ten or at most for twenty years to come. We can be certain that things will be different then than now.

The world's critical need is to hear again of the Rock of Ages, The Word that abides even though heaven and earth pass away, and of the God who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

It is our particular task as a Munster congregation to minister to the neighborhood. We must so live and witness that our neighbors will conclude that our Lord is the Savior they also need in this troubled age.

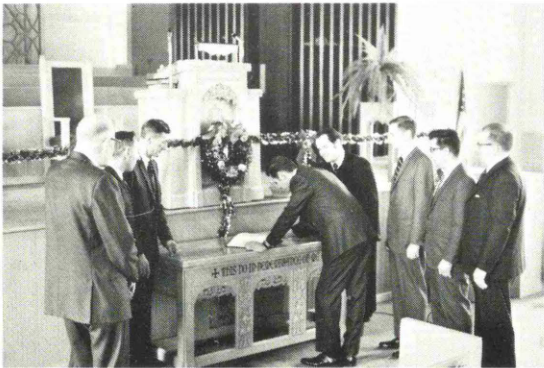
Only if we, who are celebrating this church's hundredth birthday, build solidly on The Rock and include our children in the noble venture may we hope that our congregation will double her age.

E. Bossenbroek & Family



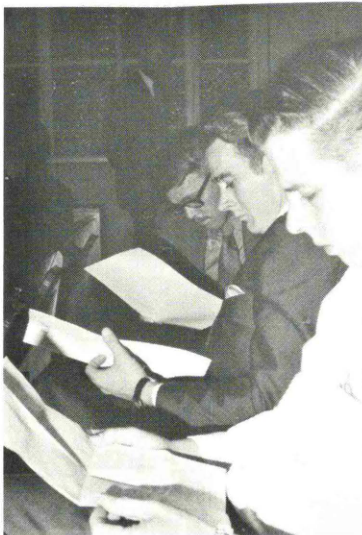
Rev. and Mrs. Bossenbroek
and Daughter Faye

Deacons Counting Offering

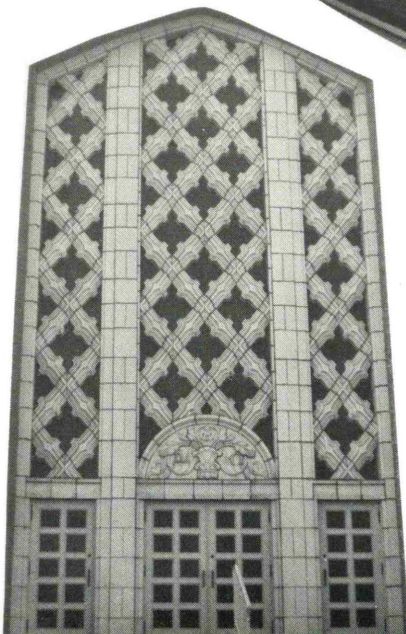
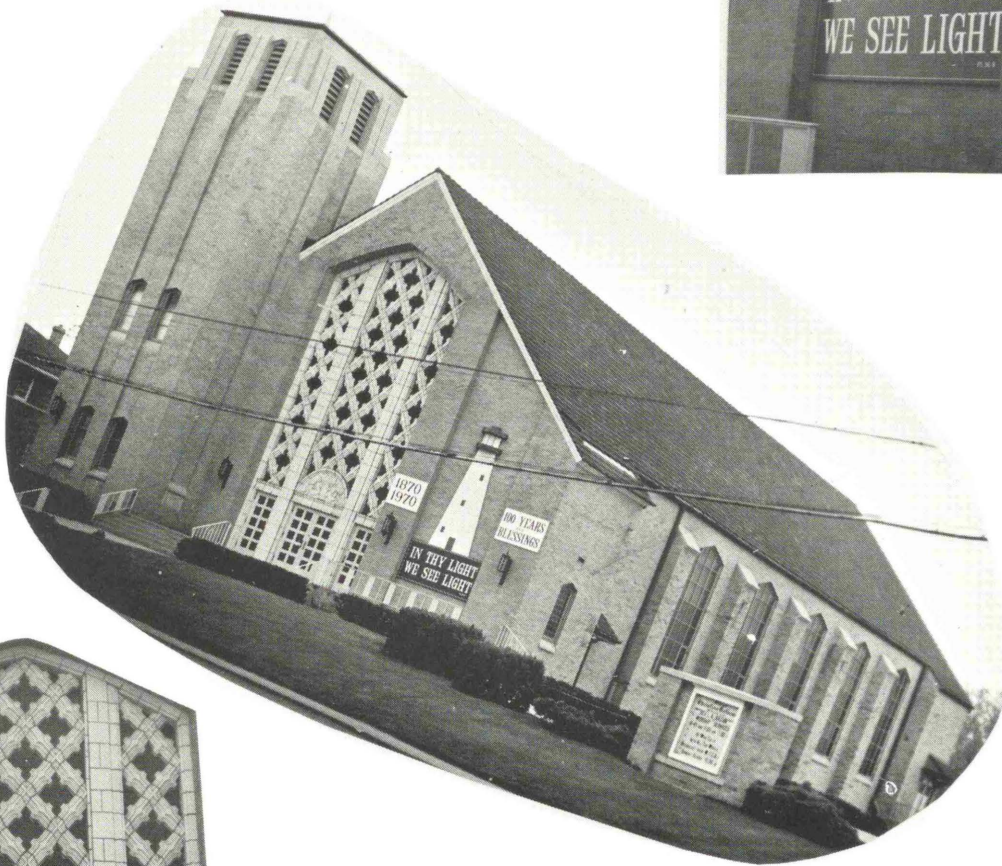
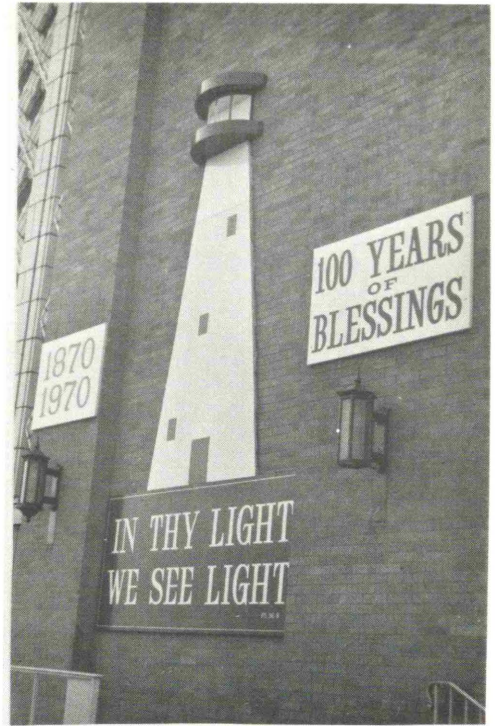
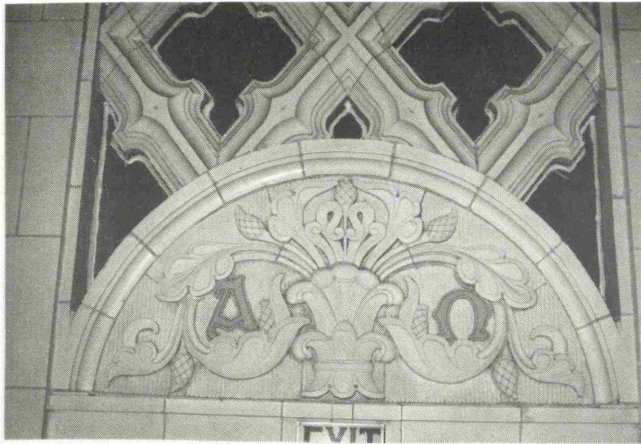


New Council Members Signing Formula of Subscription

Congregational Meeting



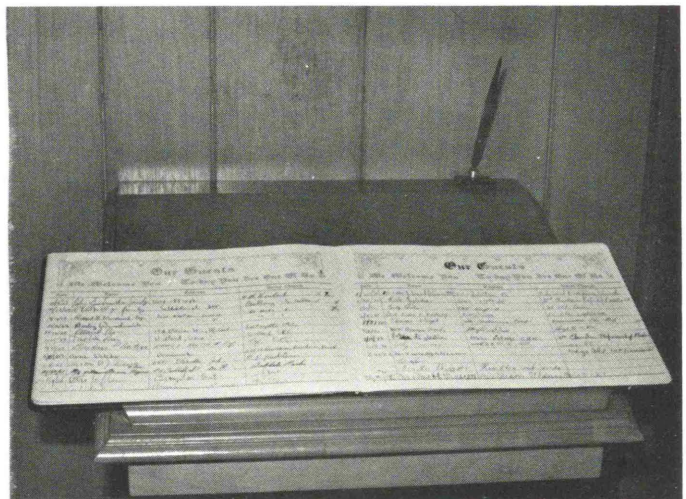




IN THY LIGHT
WE SEE LIGHT

PS. 36:9

NARTHEX VIEWS



CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS 1970



LADIES AID

Back Row: Mrs. J. Van Wieren, Mrs. L. Van Wieren, Mrs. C. Vander Vaart

2nd Row: Mrs. G. Meeter, Mrs. S. Vander Wall, Mrs. A. Klingenberg, Mrs. A. Noort, Mrs. G. Boender, Mrs. E. Koenes, Mrs. B. De Vries, Mrs. A. Witvliet, Mrs. A. Vlietstra, Mrs. H. Tiemans

3rd Row: Mrs. H. Scholten, Mrs. W. Tamminga, Mrs. L. Bazuin, Mrs. N. Dykstra, Mrs. D. Ham, Mrs. J. Visser, Mrs. N. Van Heest, Mrs. A. Vander Wall, Mrs. E. Verbeek, Mrs. A. De Boer, Mrs. S. Monsma, Mrs. H. Tiemans

Front Row: Miss M. Ooms, Mrs. E. Ooms, Mrs. H. Klooster, Mrs. J. Haak, Mrs. W. Klooster, Mrs. C. Kikkert, Mrs. D. Kamstra, Mrs. J. Ridder, Mrs. S. Boomsma, Mrs. H. Goddard

Not Pictured: Mrs. M. Boender, Mrs. A. Klooster, Mrs. N. Brander, Mrs. J. Jonkman, Mrs. W. Rooy, Mrs. W. Scholte, Mrs. R. Vroom, Mrs. J. Harkema



GOLDEN HOUR CIRCLE

Back Row: Elsie Carley, Beatrice Dykstra, Johanna McClain, Rose Zigterman, Esther Kats, Bernice Sytsma, Hilda Bultema, Alyda Van Schouwen, Tena Smits, Geraldine Fennema, Trena Minder

2nd Row: Nina Robinson, Elizabeth Huizenga, Ella Van Dyke, Theresa De Vries, Rena Ooms, Bessie De Boer, Helen Jeeninga, Elizabeth Jabaay, Theresa Jabaay, Cora Jabaay, Effie Dykstra, Loretta Sitter

3rd Row: Eldred Bazuin, Renzena Vander Vaart, Cora Boender, Ann Hoogewerf, Jean Woldhuis, Sadie Jabaay, Sybil Monsma, Margaret Pater, Sarah Rietveld, Martha Meeter, Pearl Koning, Dorothy Doesburg, Tom Dykman

4th Row: Judy Klemm, Ann Olthof, Betty Bossenbroek, Irene Dekker, Jean De Young, Aleda Dekker, Christine Norman, Mary Potts, Ann Lindemulder

Not Pictured: Grace Postma, Jennie Hoeksema, Cora Dykstra, Trena Powers, Alice Ridder, Jo Fennema, Henrietta Norman, Velda Boender, Minnie Fennema, Martha Wiers, Wilma Vlietstra, Katerine Pruim, Effie Koning, Annette Vellinga



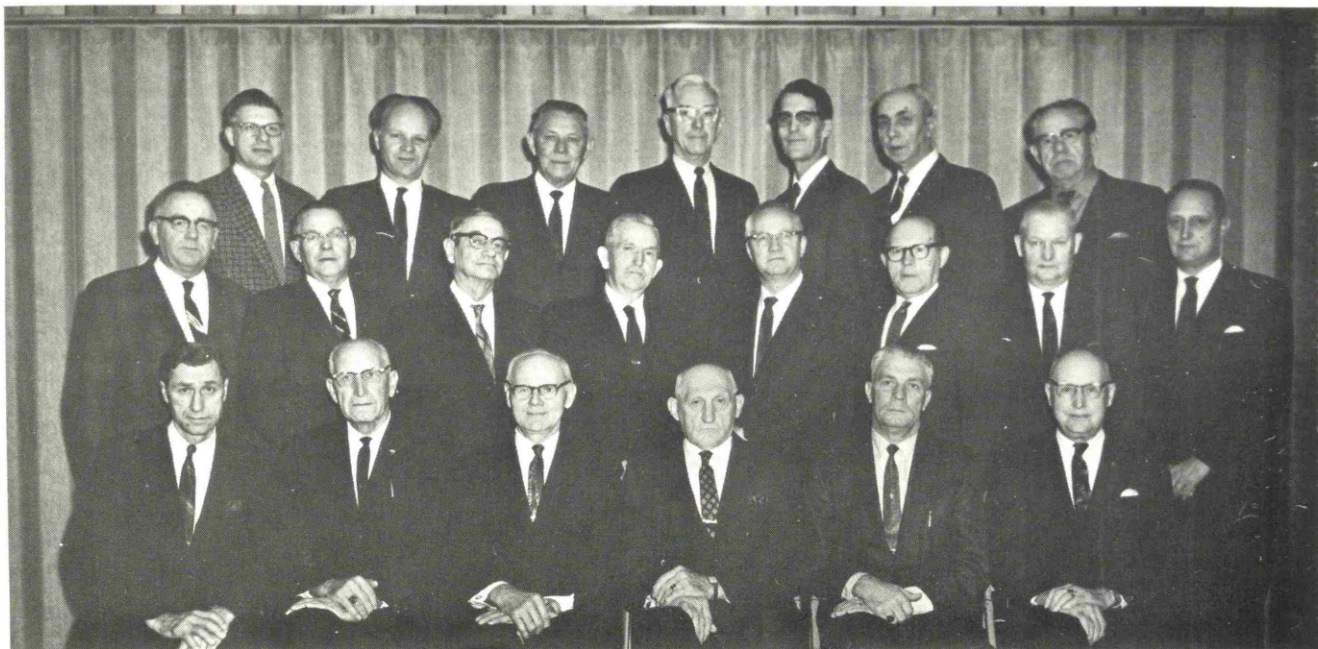
YOUNG WOMEN'S GUILD

Back Row: Peternell Kooy, Barbara Musch, Doris Fennema, Nancy Wiltjer, Geraldine Groen, Marjorie Jabaay, Pearl Huizenga, Marilyn Dykstra, Janell De Vries

2nd Row: Theresa Horneman, Joyce Fennema, Carol Dykman, Vicki Evenhouse, Carolyn Bultema, Joan Vander Wall, Joanna Jones, Cynthia De Jong, Geraldine Hoeksema

Front Row: Marge Ham, Carol Kapteyn, Grace Jabaay, Geraldine Natelborg, Ida Peerbolte, Bernice Hillegonds, Christine Zigterman, Lynn Smit

Not Pictured: Janet Miller, Betty Dykstra, Lillian Keevers, Greta Groen, Judy De Haan, Barbara Werblo, Ruth Smit



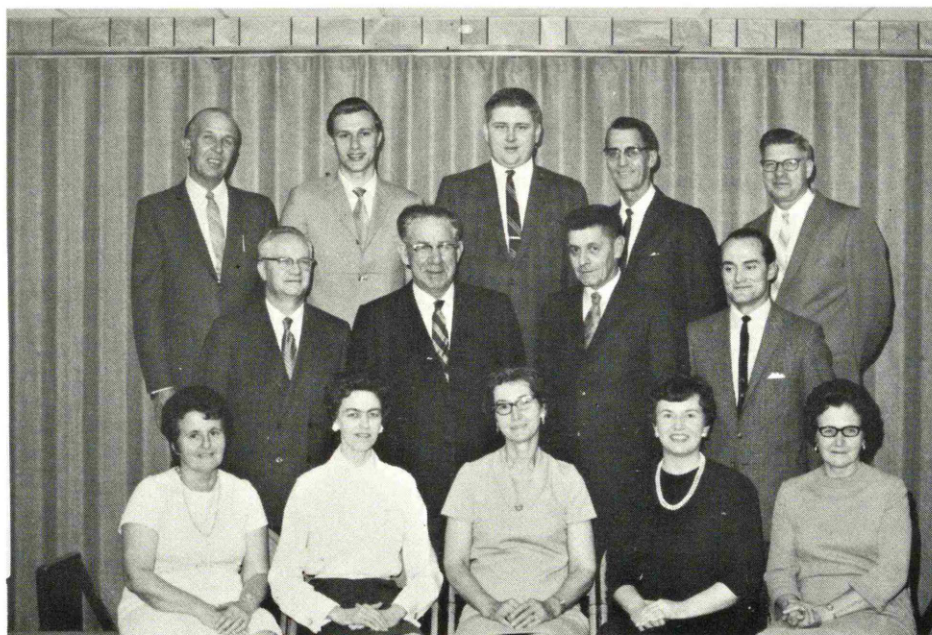
MEN'S SOCIETY

Back Row: Joseph Pruim, Sidney Jeeninga, Sam Vander Wall, Edward Ooms, Paul Molendyk, Tom Van Dyke, William Jabaay

2nd Row: William Smits, Clarence Huizenga, Nick Van Heest, Jake Dykstra, Peter Kruis, Dick Ham, Henry Klooster, Jerry Van Wieren

Front Row: George Bush, Andrew Vander Wall, Art De Boer, William Tamminga, Richard Vroom, William Klooster,

Not Pictured: Simon Potts, William Rooy



MISSION BOARD

Back Row: Peter Wiers, Alan Bush, Kenneth Segraves, Paul Molendyk, Joseph Pruim

2nd Row: Peter Kruis, William Jabaay, John Van Schouwen, Henry Mejan, Jr.

Front Row: Christine Norman, Anna Meeter, Elizabeth Huizenga, Thelma Kowal, Harriet Bultema

CALVINETTES



Back Row: Pamela Dykstra, Cynthia De Vries, Cheryl Sikma, Clarine De Vries, Joy Kats, Nancy Dekker, Sibyl Rodenburg, Amy Rodenburg, Betty Metzger, June Friesema, Ruth Van Der Sluis, Bonnie De Mik

2nd Row: Margaret Pater, Gwen Zigterman, Cheryl Chandler, Deborah Scholte, Jo Rodenburg, Renee Scholte, Karen Fugate, Valerie Mohrbacher, Linda Doesburg, Christine Klemm, Marcia Beukema, Becky Van Schouwen, Andrea Scholte

3rd Row: Lu Ann Dekker, Cheryl Murray, Lori Rinkema, Lori Oostra, Beverly De Boer, Carolyn Doesburg, Lori Boender, Maxime Klemm, Peggy Huizenga, Judy Walstra, Diane Kluth, Elizabeth Bauer, Janet Fennema

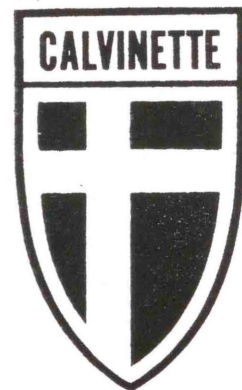
Front Row: Carol Boender, Patricia Kruis, Peggy Dykstra, Lori Ham, Lauren Huizenga, Debra Huizenga, Gale Fennema, Linda Peerbolte, Bonnie Groen



COUNSELORS

Back Row: Aleda Dekker, Betty Dykstra, Edna Huizenga, Sandra Van Prooyen

Front Row: Marlene Van Proyen, Susan De Jong, Joan Ooms, Ellen Noort



CALVINIST CADET CORPS



Back Row: Paul Zigterman, Walter Wolf, Philip Dykstra, John Jeeninga, Herb Sitter, Jim Fennema, Albert Noort, Rick Ham, Rolf Thys

2nd Row: Jeff Sikma, Jo Kowal, Tom Sikma, Bill Hillegonds, Curtiss Dykstra, Martin Noort, Peter Stob, Robert Rietveld, Jan Adema

3rd Row: Roy Mejan, Gerald Adema, Harold Koning, Terry Dykstra, Paul Kooy, Dale Dekker, Grant Carley, Donald Kooy, Donald Jeeninga, Craig Miller

Not Pictured: Randy Riensma, James Boersma, Dean Natelborg, Robert Jeeninga, John Friesema, Dan Harkema, Lonnie Natelborg



COUNSELORS

Back Row: James Smit, Donald Van Prooyen, Kenneth Segraves, Calvin Musch, George Hoeksema
Front Row: Tom Zigterman, Al Peerbolte, Robert Huizenga, James Wiltjer, Clair Hoeksema



SENIOR CHOIR



MR. JAMES HOEK, DIRECTOR

MRS. JAMES SMIT, PIANIST

Back Row: Doris Fennema, Pat Rodenburg, Esther Kats, Don Van Prooyen, Paul Molendyk, John Lindemulder, Annette Vellinga, Johanna Segraves, Marilyn Huge, Theresa Jabaay

2nd Row: Alice Kikkert, Geraldine Natelborg, Margaret Smith, Theresa De Vries, Jacques Mejan, Francis Vander Wall, Cornelius Kikkert, Irene Boender, Helen Jeeninga, Greta Groen, Josephine Fennema

Front Row: Lynn Smit, Mary Bazuin, Margaret Van Heest, Carolyn Bultema, Carol Moes, Ted Koning, Dick Ham, Harry Van Schouwen, Katherine Pruijm, Elaine Meeter, Christine Norman, June Huizenga, James Hoek

Not Pictured: Judy De Haan, Cornelius Dykstra, Leonard Jabaay, Albert Noort, Carol Noort, Elaine Noort, James Wiltjer

JUNIOR CHOIR



MRS. JERRY VAN WIEREN, DIRECTOR

MISS JEAN FRIESEMA, PIANIST

Back Row: Philip Dykstra, Deborah Scholte, June Friesema, Margaret Pater, Joy Kats, Clarine De Vries, Nancy Dekker, Cynthia De Vries, Amy Rodenburg, Sibyl Rodenburg, Gwen Zigterman, Carolyn Doesburg, Terry Kapteyn

2nd Row: Lonnie Natelborg, Paul Zigterman, Cheryl Murray, Lori Oostra, Lori Rinkema, Beverly De Boer, Jo Rodenburg, Linda Doesburg, Ruth Van Der Sluis, Cynthia Boender, Rolf Thys, Curtiss Dykstra

3rd Row: Jean Friesema, Peggy Huizenga, Becky Van Schouwen, Patricia Kruis, Lu Anne Dekker, Andrea Scholte, Renee Scholte, Maxine Klemm, Christine Klemm, Lauren Huizenga, Bonnie Groen, Peggy Dykstra, Minnie Van Wieren

Front Row: Paul Kooy, Grant Carley, Jo Kowal, Harold Koning, Linda Peerbolte, Lori Ham, Judy Fennema, Gale Fennema, Janet Fennema, Donald Jeeninga, Donald Kooy

Not Pictured: James Boersma, Carol Boender, Jeffrey De Vries, Martin Noort

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL



STAFF

Back Row: Clayton De Vries, Bernard Stammers,
Donald Scholte, Paul Molendyk, Peter Dykstra
(Asst. Supt.) Henry Van Proyen, Peter Oostra,
Donald Gritters

2nd Row: Carol Olthof, Minnie Fennema, Cora

Jabaay, Pat Romanchuck (Supt.) Carol Moes, Linda
Jabaay, Ann Olthof, Mary Potts

Front Row: Pat Van Prooyen, Darlene Bush,
Katherine Molendyk, Donna Van Dyke, Marilyn
Huge, Alice Ridder

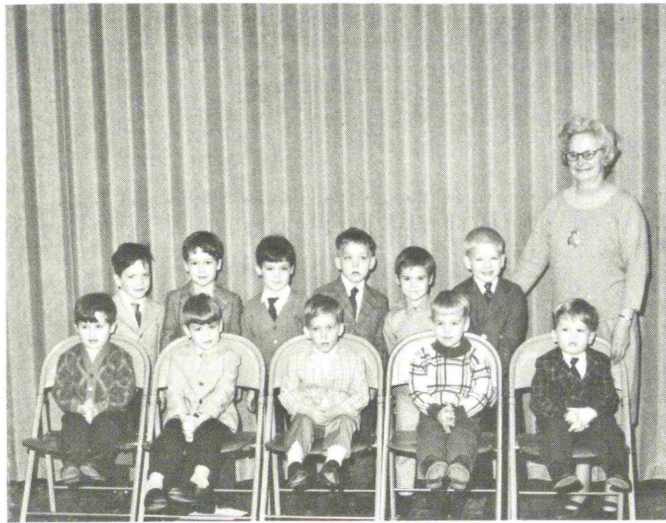
Not Pictured: Tena Romanchuck, Jane Wiers



ASSISTANTS

Standing — Pat DeVries, Melanie Dykstra, Pam
Zigterman, Alva Boersma

Seated — Jill Carley, Pat Dykstra



Back Row: Robert Kikkert, Craig Van Schouwen, Lee Bultema, Robert Potts, William Fulton, Robert Jerome, Mary Potts (Teacher)

Front Row: James Huizenga, Mark Van Prooyen, Dwayne Evenhouse, Eric Van Proyen, Richard Van Schouwen

Not Pictured: Michael Kalma



Back Row: Tena Romanchuck (Teacher) Sheryl De Mik, Julia Dykstra, Susan Horneman, Cathy Dykstra, Theresa Jones

Front Row: Rose Ann Bultema, Michele Jabaay, Dawn Jonkman, Christina Mejan



Back Row: Barbara Jabaay, Sandra Beukema, Katherine Molendyk (Teacher) Sylvia Van Der Sluis, Valerie Pruim

Front Row: Laura Evenhouse, Juliana Kieft, Leanne Peerbolte, Brenda Hallmark, Alisa Hallmark



Back Row: Jo Jonkman, Jeffrey Keevers, Ann Olthof, (Teacher) James Noort, Steven Jones

Front Row: Barry Bultema, Philip Vander Wall, Jeffrey Vlietstra, James Wiltjer, Doug Evenhouse



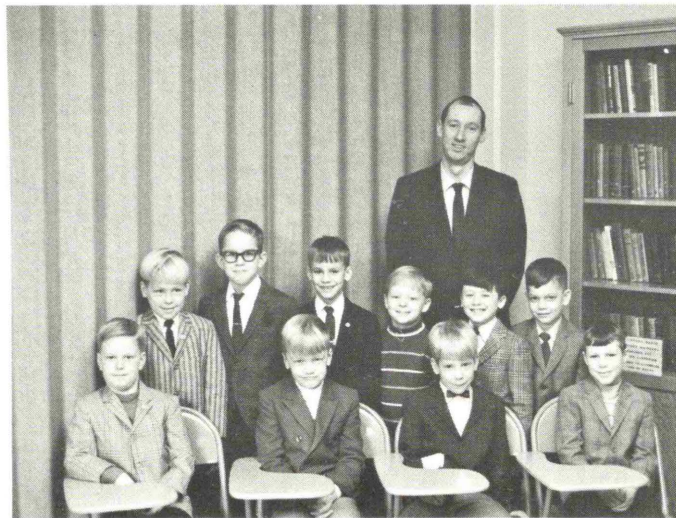
Back Row: Myra Zigterman, Diane Kapteyn, Cora Jabaay (Teacher) Cyndee Ham, Dawn Vander Noord
Front Row: Patricia Adema, Kathy Frieling, Linda Ham, Michele De Vries, Lisa Fennema



Back Row: Karen Ham, Jill Fennema, Elona Thys, Lori Rietveld, Cindy Peerbolte, Susan Wiltjer, Sandy Jabaay
Front Row: Darlene Bush (Teacher) Cheryl Den Hartog, Rhoda Voskuil, Joan Jillson, Valerie Oostra, Carla Dykstra, Mary De Boer



Third Row: Donald Scholte (Teacher) David Bush, Percy Mejan, Peter Van Der Sluis, Peter Rcdenburg
Second Row: Edward Gritters, Scot De Boer, Larry Musch, Martin Kooy
Front Row: Brent Rinkema, Scott Barbee, Dan Hillegonds, Scott Kikkert



Back Row: Bernard Stammers, (Teacher)
2nd Row: Richard Botterman, Brian Huizenga, John Peerbolte, Michael Bultema, Michael Huizenga, Paul Van Prooyen
Front Row: Randall Frieling, Dean Dekker, Ronald Mohrbacker, David Ham



Back Row: Carol Olthof (Teacher) Susan Boender, Joan Friesema, Patricia Huge, Debra Kluth, Tammy Fulton

Front Row: Brenda Van Proyen, Deanne Fennema, Janice Brown

Not Pictured: Kimberly Huizenga



Back Row: Margaret Rodenburg, Brenda Bultema, Debra De Boer, Susan Brown, Marilyn Huge (Teacher)

Front Row: Susan Van Proyen, Susan Van Prooyen, Debra Dykstra, Amy Fennema



Back Row: Carol Moes (Teacher), Kevin Mohrbacker, Jeffrey Jillson, Scott Kapteyn, Tom Groen, Michael Vander Wall, Curtis Miller

Front Row: Kenneth Den Hartog, Richard Barbee, Donald Gritters, James Scholte

Not Pictured: Michael Kikkert, Gary Huizenga

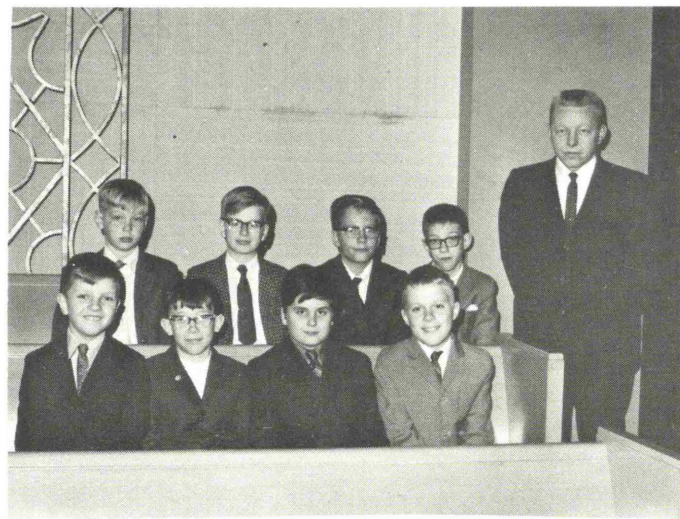


Back Row: Henry Van Proyen (Teacher), John Friesema, Dean Natelborg, Roy Mejan, Richard De Mik

Front Row: Craig Miller, David Klemm, Hendrik Botterman, Robert Jeeninga



Back Row: Kim Barbee, Minnie Fennema (Teacher), Jackie Huge
 Front Row: Tammy Scholte, Cheryl Musch, Cheryl Jabaay
 Not Pictured: Dawn Fennema, Mina Van Der Sluis



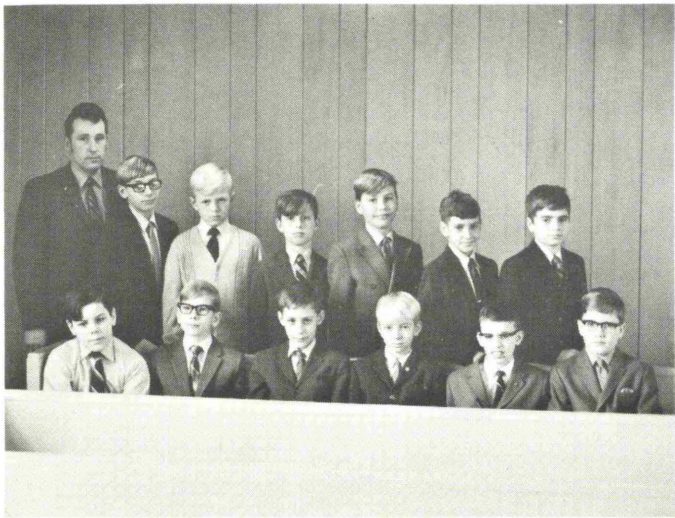
Back Row: Ronald Bultema, Paul Kooy, Gregory Jillson, Robert Hillegonds, Donald Gritters (Teacher)
 Front Row: Dale Dekker, Jeff De Vies, Will Wakefield, Gerald Adema
 Not Pictured: James Boersma, Ronald Musch



Back Row: Esther Mejan, Francis Rodenburg, Cindy Dekker, Donna Van Dyke, (Teacher)
 Front Row: Terri Van Schouwen, Judy Smit, Robin Rietveld, Susan Bultema, Johanna Botterman



Back Row: Jane Wiers (Teacher), Debra Huizenga, Lu Ann Dekker, Carol Boender, Bonnie Groen, Marcia Buekema, Patricia Kruis
 Front Row: Gale Fennema, Judy Fennema, Linda Peerbolte, Jayne Wilkerson, Peggy Dykstra, Lori Ham



Back Row: Peter Oostra (Teacher), Rolf Thys, Martin Noort, Grant Carley, Peter Stob, Dan Harkema, Ted Brown

Front Row: Robert Rietveld, Curtiss Dykstra, Jan Adema, Harold Koning, Jo Kowal, Gregory Bultema



Back Row: Paul Molendyk (Teacher), Gary Dykstra, Marinus Botterman, William Hillegonds, Michael Ericks

Front Row: Lonnie Natelborg, Paul Zigterman, Philip Dykstra, Terry Kapteyn, Ricky Ham



Back Row: Pat Van Prooyen (Teacher), Jo Rodenburg, Cheryl Murray, Lori Rinkema

Front Row: Ruth Van Der Sluis, Diane Kluth, Andrea Scholte, Becky Van Schouwen



Back Row: Amy Rodenburg, Linda Doesburg, Lori Oostra, Alice Ridder (Teacher)

2nd Row: Janet Fennema, Peggy Huizenga, Grace Van Schouwen, Lori Huizenga

Front Row: Becky De Boer, Bonnie De Mik, Renee Scholte, Bonny Bultema

Not Pictured: Valerie Mohrbacker



Back Row: Jim Fennema, Peter Dykstra (Teacher),
Herb Sitter

Front Row: Don Jeeninga, Larry Bultema, Mark
Norman, Don Kooy



Back Row: Clayton De Vries (Teacher), June Fries-
ma, Debbie Scholte, Sibyl Rodenburg, Cindy De
Vries, Gwen Zigterman, Joy Kats, Pam Dykstra

Front Row: Margaret Pater, Maxine Klemm, Chris-
tine Klemm, Cindy Boender, Clarine De Vries



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

Peter Kruis, President
Lou Anne Bazuin, Secretary
Simon Potts, Treasurer

ASSISTANT LEADERS

Cors Pater
Mark Dykstra



THE CHURCH TEACHES:

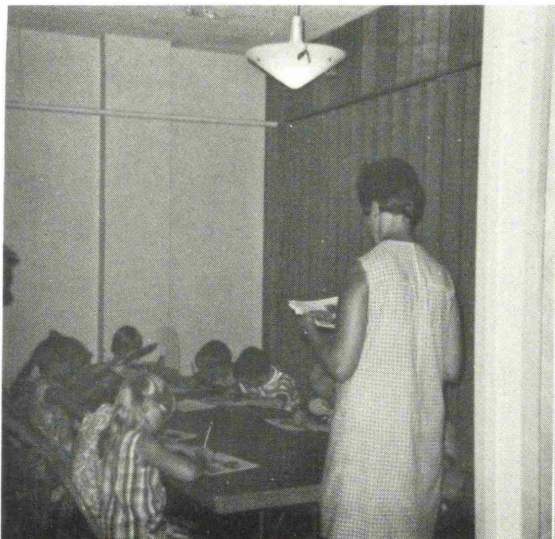


through Catechism

through Sunday School



through Daily Vacation Bible School



MR. and MRS. CLUB



BIBLE STUDY

BOWLING



OFFICERS

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Huizenga, Sec. Treas.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Dykstra, Pres.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dykstra, Activity Committee

CAROLING



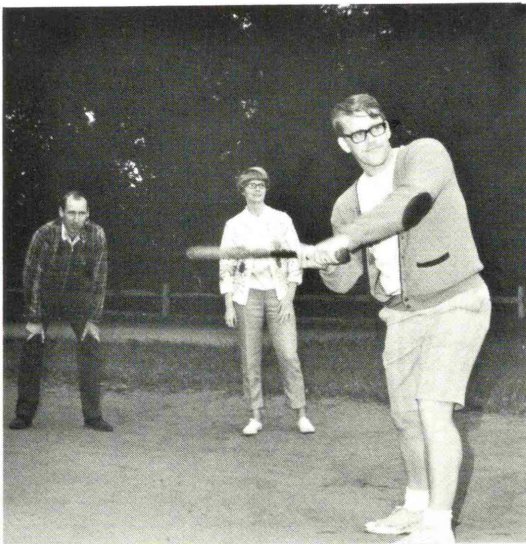
at



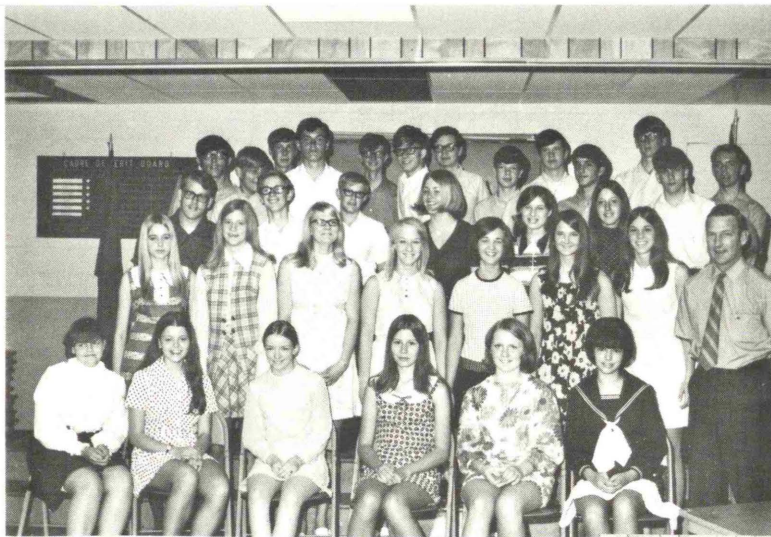
REST HAVEN



Young Couple's Club Outing



YOUNG PEOPLE'S

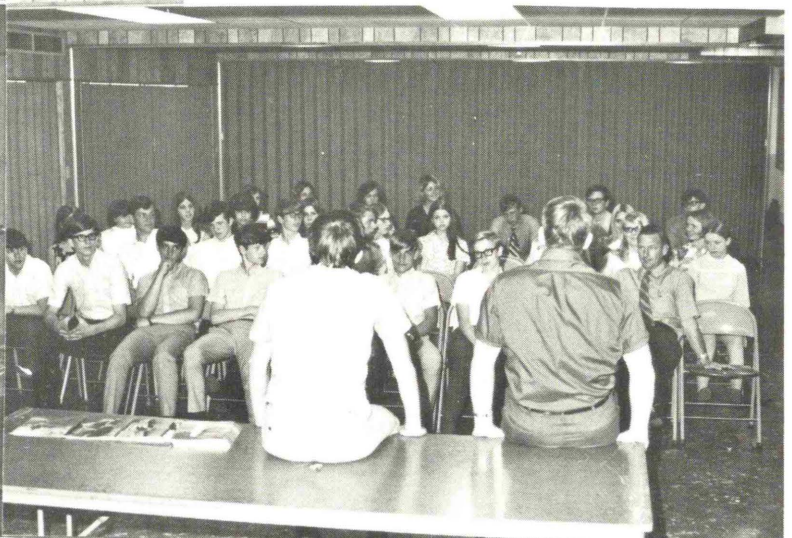
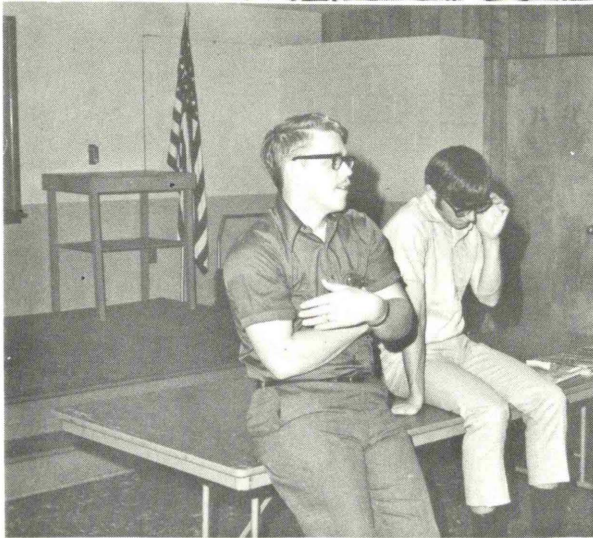


OFFICERS:

Mike De Vries, President
Tom Zigterman, Vice President
Jill Carley, Secretary
Elaine Meeter, Treasurer

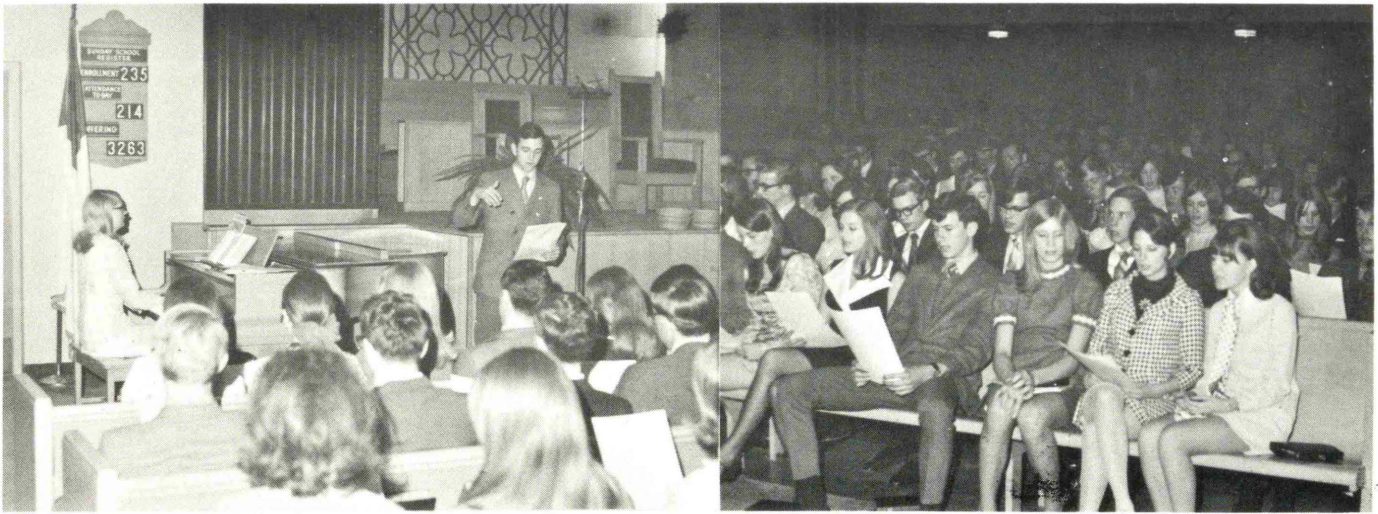
LEADERS:

Tom Dykman
Clayton De Vries



ACTIVITIES

Sing In



Soup Supper

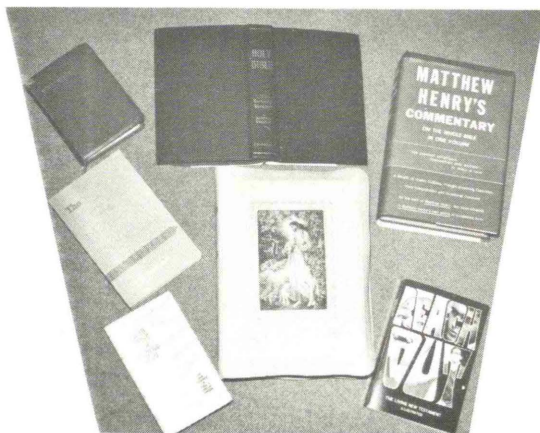




MORNING
Prayer Breakfast



EVENING
Bible Study Group





LADIES AID COOKING



SEWING CANCER BANDAGES



**MR. and MRS. CLUB
HOSTESS
SUPPER**





GUILD
BANQUET

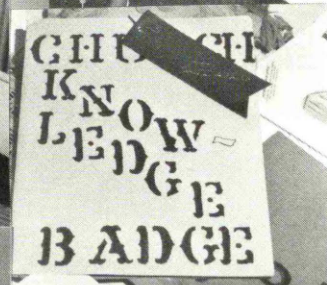
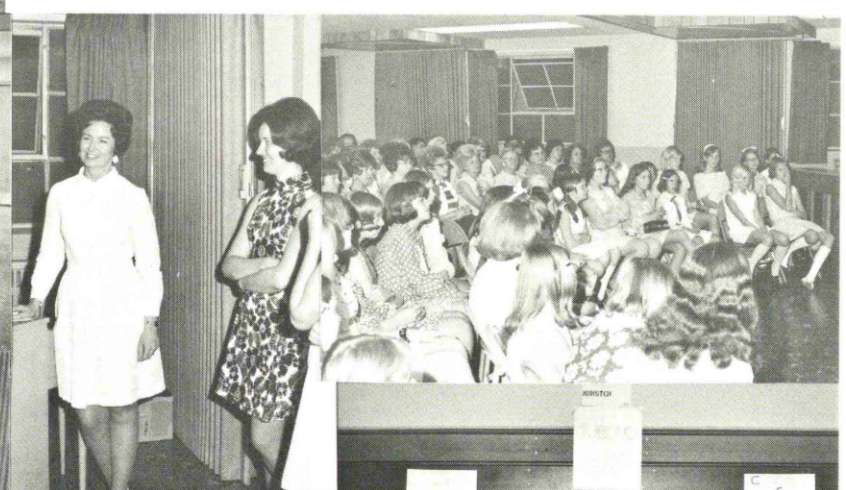
GOLDEN
HOUR
SMORGASBORD





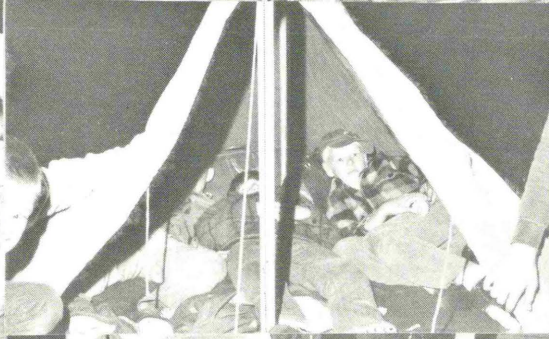
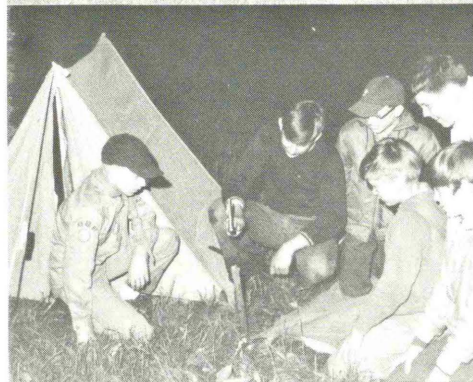
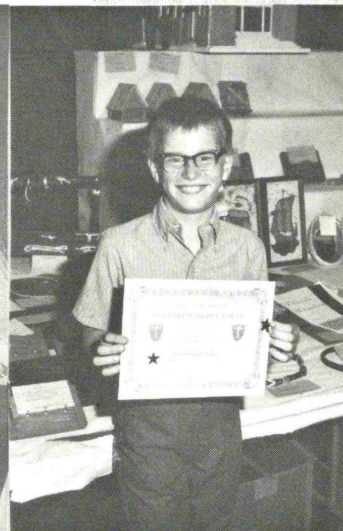
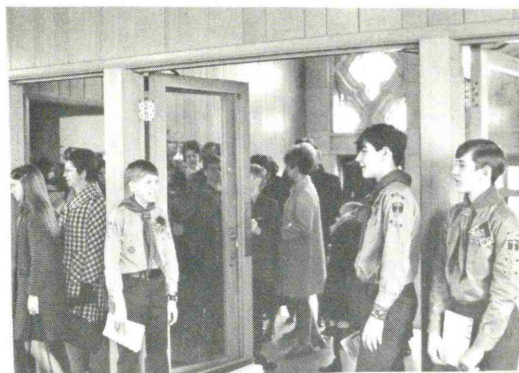
CALVINETTES

*" . . . exercise thyself
unto Godliness."*



CADETS

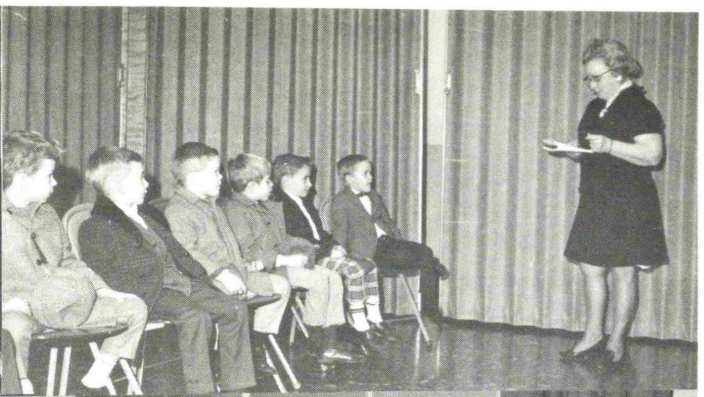
"Living for Jesus"



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Primary Department



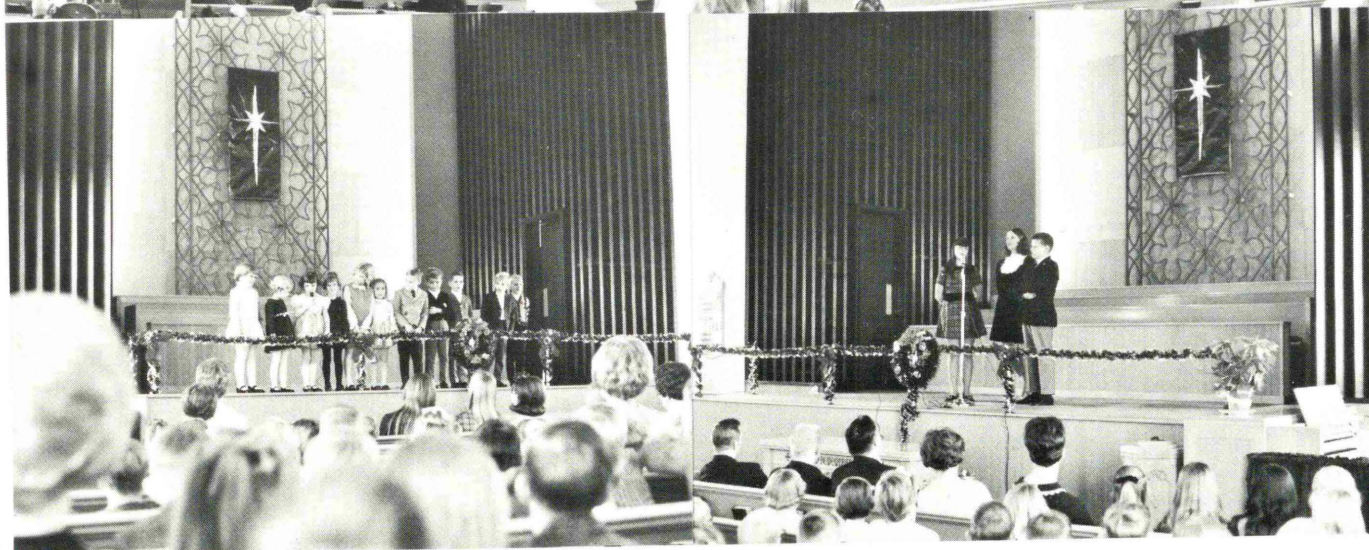


INTERMEDIATE and ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL





SUNDAY SCHOOL
Christmas Program
1969



Organists

Jerry Van Wieren
Betty Frieling
Pat Rodenburg
Gail Pater



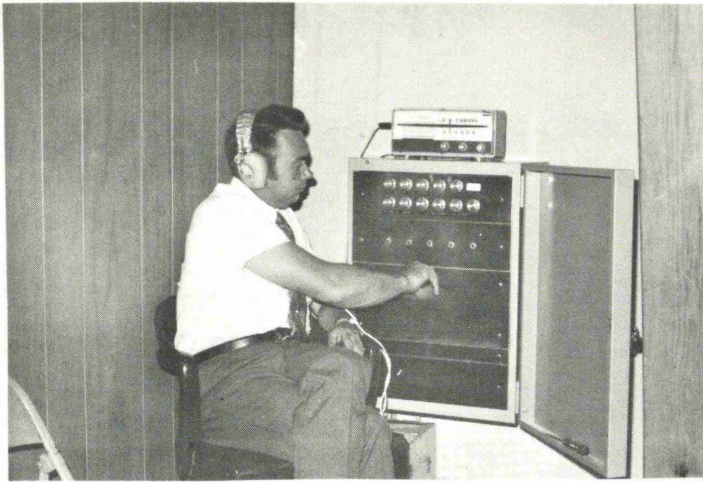
Church Secretary

Barbara Musch

Custodian

Roger De Mik





John Kapteyn
at radio controls



William Klooster sets Bulletin Board

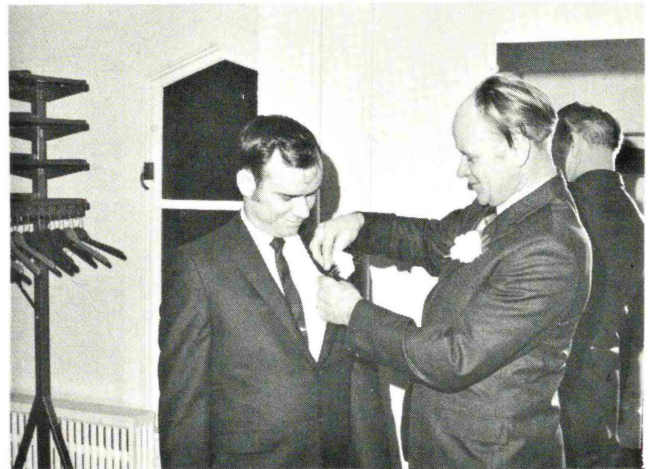
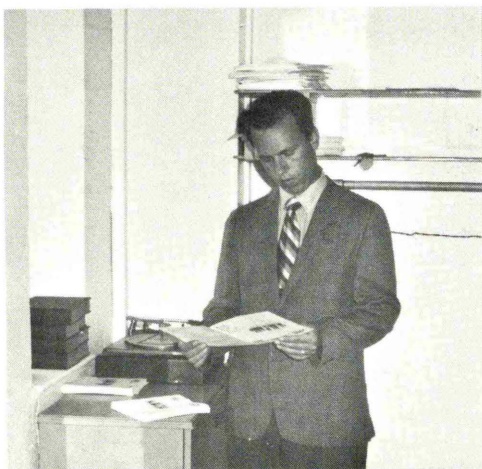
Head Ushers

Sid Jeeninga
Fred Miller

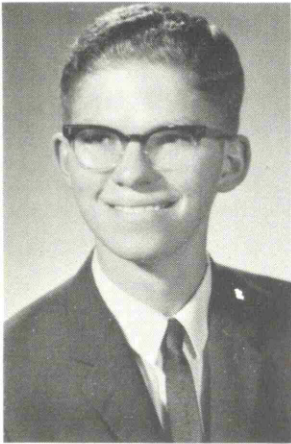
Fred Miller

Leonard Fulton

Sid Jeeninga

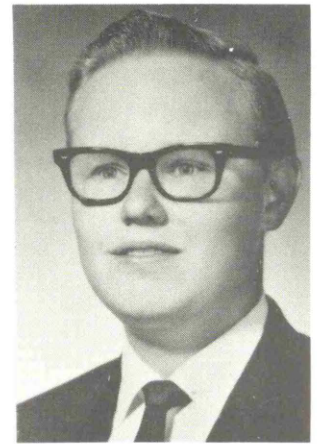


Reformed Bible Institute Graduates



DONALD JABAAY

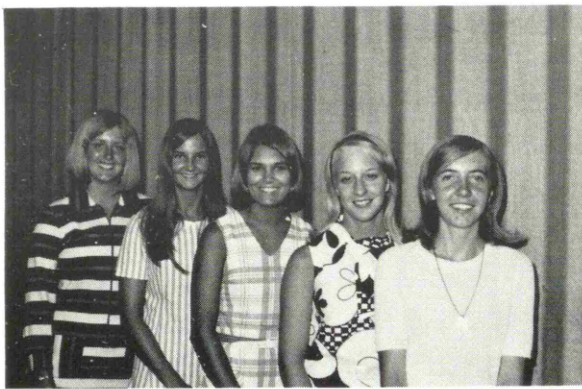
Don is currently ministering to migrant workers under the auspices of the Willard, Ohio Christian Reformed Church.



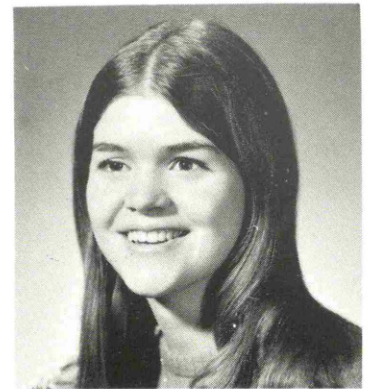
FRED OLTHOFF

Fred's Summer assignment was an RBI project in Yucatan, Mexico.

Summer Workshop in Missions 1970



Local SWIM team - Jill Carley, Nancy Dykstra, Pat Dykstra, Elaine Meeter and Joanne Noort.
(Jean Friesema - not pictured)



LOU ANNE BAZUIN -

Salt Lake City, Utah

Seamen's Mission



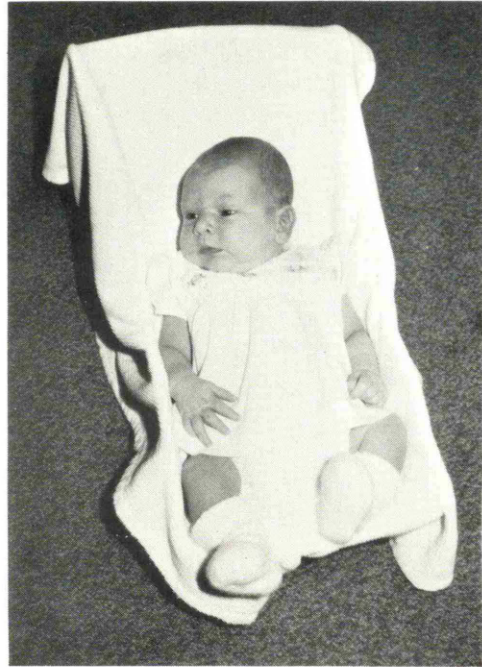
Our Representatives to the Seamen's Mission Board at Calumet Harbor.

Roelof Thys
John Kalma

OUR OLDEST AND YOUNGEST MEMBERS



Dingeman P. Jabaay
Aug. 9, 1877



Laura Beth Van Prooyen
June 3, 1970



NURSERY SCENES



CENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES



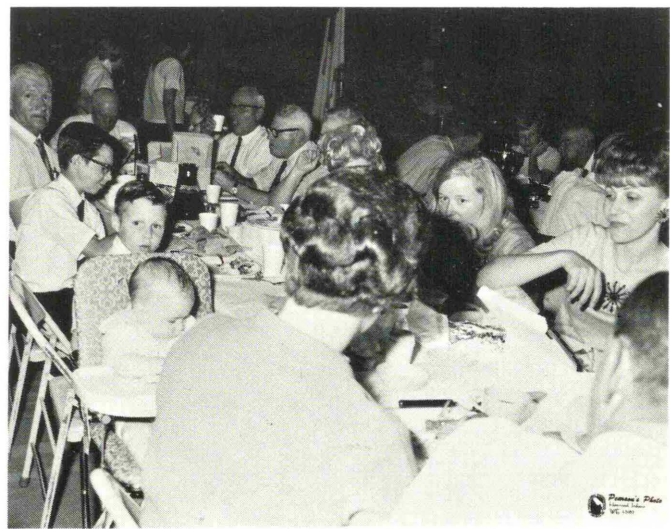
Faith Quartette sings at the first Sunday Evening Service of our Centennial Year.



Dr. Rooy speaks at the Men's Centennial Breakfast.



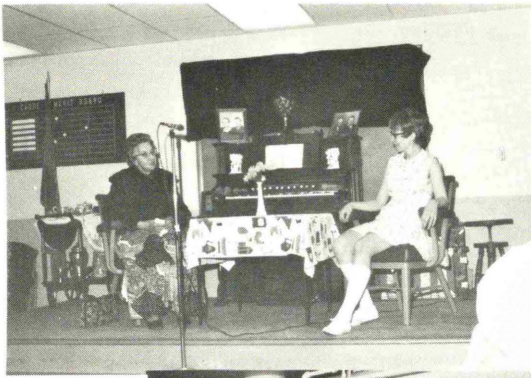
Centennial Kick-off Dinner





COUNCIL PARTY

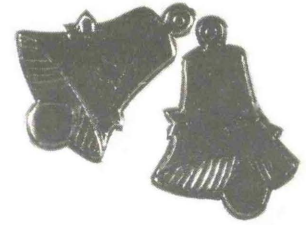
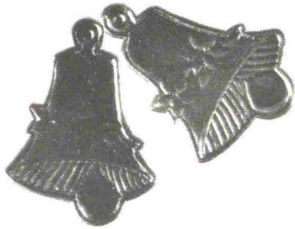




OLD - FASHIONED LUNCHEON



Old-fashioned Bridal Revue



A Hundred Years of Blessing

Munster C.R. Church Centennial 1870-1970

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AVIS BURGESSON CHRISTIANSEN

HARRY DIXON LOES

1. Through a hun-dred years of bless-ing, God, in good-ness and in
 2. Through a hun-dred years of bless-ing, Ev-ery need He has sup-
 3. Through a hun-dred years of bless-ing, God has brought us to this

grace, Has re-vealed His might-y pow-er In this
 plied, As the Gos-pel has re-sound-ed From this
 hour! Un-to Him be all the glo-ry For His

CHORUS

sa-cred, hal-lowed place. —
 Lighthouse, far and wide. — A hun-dred years of bless-ing- To
 won-der-work-ing pow'r! To

God be all the praise, Whose hand of love and mer-cy Hath guid-ed
 God be all the praise, guid-

all our ways! — And should the Sav-iour tar-ry An-oth-er cen-tur-
 ed all our ways! An-oth-er

y, cen-tur-y, May we be found still trust-ing, And serv-ing faith-ful-ly.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 21, 1970

To The Congregation of
Munster Christian Reformed Church:

My warmest congratulations go out to your
Congregation as you observe your one hundredth
anniversary.

Ever since this nation's birth, its leaders
have derived sustenance and strength from
its religious institutions. Now, more than
ever, we need the spiritual and moral
guidance you lend.

So as you cross this milestone in your
eventful history, you fill us with the hope
of new and growing achievements for your
Congregation and for the nation you have so
nobly served.

Richard Nixon



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
INDIANAPOLIS

EDGAR D. WHITCOMB
GOVERNOR

January
sixteenth
1970

Rev. Lugene A. Bazuin, Pastor
Munster Christian Reformed Church
Munster, Indiana

Dear Rev. Bazuin:

I have been advised that the Munster
Christian Reformed Church will be cele-
brating its 100th anniversary during 1970.

May I take this opportunity to extend my
heartiest congratulations and sincere
best wishes for your continuing success.

Down through the years, faith in God and
the dedication and devotion to mankind
displayed by the members of your congre-
gation have been major factors in the
success of the Munster Christian Reformed
Church. May your success be ever continu-
ing as you begin your second one-hundred
years.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar D. Whitcomb

Edgar D. Whitcomb
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF INDIANA

EDW/dm

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 14, 1970

Munster Christian Reformed Church
Munster, Indiana.

Dear Congregation:

May I congratulate the members of the Munster Christian Reformed Church on their 100th anniversary.

I am sure you are all very proud of the fine heritage of your church, for you have provided not only spiritual leadership to your community but have established through the years a great tradition of public service.

May God continue to bless you for the work you are doing in His behalf.

Vance Hartke

Vance Hartke
United States Senator

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 20, 1970

Munster Christian Reformed Church
Munster, Indiana

Dear Congregation:

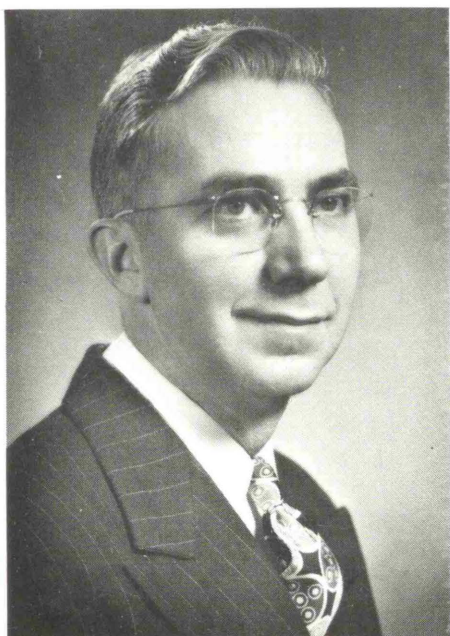
I was pleased to learn that the Munster Christian Reformed Church will be celebrating it's 100th anniversary this year and want to add my heartiest congratulations to the many I know you have already received on this significant occasion.

Sincerely,

Birch Bayh

Birch Bayh
United States Senator

GREETINGS FROM FORMER PASTORS



Dear Congregation:

On this joyous occasion in which you celebrate your Centennial I join with you as one of your former pastors in lifting up my heart with yours in praising God, and with the writer of old stating "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." For the congregation during the one hundred years there were days of gladness and days of sorrow, yet amid fire and frustration, of hopes and plans, our Lord in His covenant faithfulness made the trials and adversities a rich source of blessing. I am thankful that I was given the privilege to labor in your midst, and with you to rejoice in the goodness and tender care of our Lord. I cherish in my heart sweet memories of our years together.

May the years to come find you faithful in the service of your covenant God, advancing His kingdom by building upon the Rock of our salvation, Christ Jesus.

Fraternally yours,
REV. JOHN L. BULT



BETHEL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

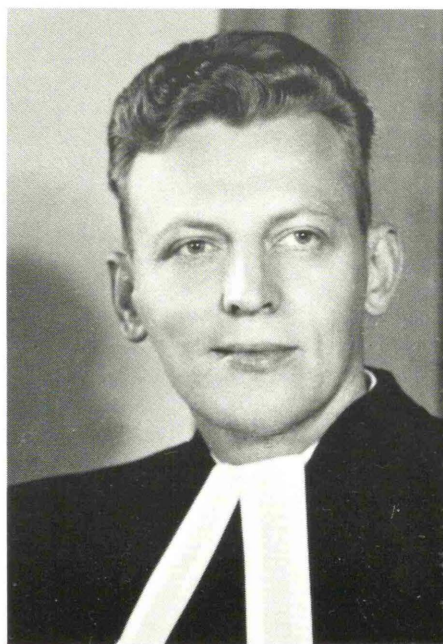
724 SHAMROCK STREET, S.W.
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49509

Dear Congregation:

As men measure time, a century is long; longer than the lifetime of all but the strongest of time-bound mortals. However, in the sight of the One who "inhabits eternity", this span of time is brief. If with Him a thousand ages is as but yesterday when it is past, how short is the story of Munster's first one hundred years.

This contrast puts centennial celebration in sharper focus. It humbles, because the fast flying years proclaim our frailty. We understand more clearly the words, "Hear my prayer, O Lord. . . for I am Thy passing guest, a sojourner like all my fathers." It also exalts and encourages us. Looking back, we see that the church is built on the rock. Its confession and hope is in "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever."

May the blessings of the Lord remain with the Munster church always. We rejoice with you, and thank God for



the service shared and love received during the years of our fellowship with you.

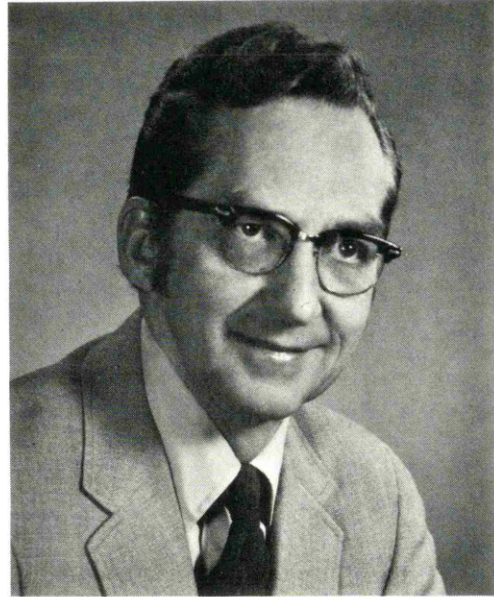
W. D. BUURSMAN AND FAMILY

**FORMER
ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

Maranatha Christian Reformed Church
918 Central Ave. Phone 396-7952
Holland, Michigan 49423

Greetings!

Hearty congratulations on your anniversary. To be able to celebrate such an event is most wonderful. You are enabled to look in two directions as the Spirit of God directs you through these days. You can look back over the past history and can express your appreciation to God for all that He has done for you and the opportunities which He has given for you to serve Him. You can also look forward into the future with the anticipation that the promises of God which meant so much in the past shall not diminish in the future. God will go with you. However, you must also always remain true to Him. Munster church really doesn't belong to you. . . it belongs to God. Christ is the head. In His sight each soul is precious and of equal importance. He commands you now to go forward and to be aggressive as Paul was when he "set the world upside down!" Live in encouragement which God gives, and enjoy yourself in the exciting service of God. I close with just a personal note; I will always



appreciate what my association with you wonderful people has done for me in the development of my own work within the church of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,
JERRY POSTMA



FORMER INTERN



Dear friends in Christ,

It was a real privilege to be your first intern. As we reflect on the fifteen months spent in Munster, not all was easy, but we trust it was profitable. God used the time to give us final preparation for His service. We also pray that His church gained from our serving in the Munster congregation. We are thankful to God for bringing us together for that time.

Now it is our prayer that God will be with you during the centennial year, and that the second century of the Munster Christian Reformed Church will be one of joyful service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours,
REV. AND MRS. JACK GRAY

SONS OF THE CHURCH

MRS. JENNIE MEETER

809 Edna St., S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49507

Dear Congregation:

As a special greeting on this anniversary occasion of the Munster Church, I believe that my husband's ardent wish as well as my own for the members would best be expressed in Ephesians 3:19-21:

And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the Power that worketh in us, Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end — Amen.

Yours truly,

MRS. HENRY MEETER



REV. HENRY MEETER

1886—1963



REV. ALBERT JABAAY

1897—1969

Dear Congregation of Munster,

I wish to congratulate you on your Centennial Anniversary.

The Lord has prospered you all these years in bringing the Gospel message to you as a congregation, thru your Pastors and co-workers, and has also blessed you so you may reach out to the unchurched.

Only eternity will reveal the results of all your efforts.

May you continue to reach out and work while it is day; may you be a bulwark against the powers of evil in this present day.

We both had most of our Catechism training here, which has laid a good foundation for our spiritual life. My husband was always glad to come back to his home church, but he is now rejoicing in the presence of his Savior.

May we be ready when the call comes to each of us.

Yours in Christ,

MRS. ALBERT JABAAY



Westminster Theological Seminary

Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19118
887-5511

Dear friends of Munster:

I am happy to be included in the list of the "Sons of the Congregation," and want first of all, for my wife as well as for myself, to congratulate you all on the occasion of your one hundredth anniversary.

My wife was born into the Munster (Lansing) church family but I was only an adopted child. Perhaps this was the reason why Dr. Borgman threatened to strike me with the stove-poke in the old church basement when I was in his catechism class.

Be that as it may, my family arrived in this country in the Spring of 1905 and settled on a forty acre prairie farm on 45th Street and Kleinman Road, south-east of Highland.

As soon as possible we "joined" the Munster Church. On Sunday mornings one of our two aged horses was hitched to the wagon and those of us elected to go to the morning service jumped in, or rather, "clambered up." The first mile was difficult. It was a sand road. But when we had managed to cross the hill we were on the turnpike (Ridge Road). I'll not try to describe the condition of Ridge Road in those days; suffice it to say that according to my best recollection, none of us ever fell off the wagon. When we got back home, the second horse was persuaded to draw the rest of the family to the afternoon service.

I remember that Dr. Van Vliet was the minister in Munster. But he soon left. What an excitement to hear various ministers preach! One of them was Dr. Boer. He struck the Bible so hard that the proverbial dust flew out. "Boy, I hope they call him!" I said to myself. But, alas, I had no vote. So they called Dr. Borgman. I soon learned to like him though I recall him speaking at the opening of the new Christian school, where the old stove was smoking and some of us boys, not girls, started coughing. Dr. Borgman, a good psychologist, said "Ik heb rook hier, boys!" Our coughing was cured.



Perhaps our need of discipline in the catechism was due to the fact that in the school we had only a one-armed teacher, Mr. Cleveringa. I wondered at the time whether this was because, starting from scratch, the board didn't feel they could afford a two-armed one.

So much for the past. My wife and I think back with real pleasure to all our associations with the Munster Church. Even after I left as soon as the Highland Church was organized and I forced my wife to leave for points out East, we were many a time graciously entertained in your midst.

As for the future we hope and pray that the Munster Church may continue to be a light-house from which the gospel of the sovereign grace of God may shine out into a darksome world.

We live in extremely serious times. Every church is threatened by the forces of unbelief that are rampant in the world. Many churches have already compromised with unbelief. It is my hope and prayer that the Munster Church, and with it the entire Christian Reformed denomination may remain true to the gospel until the day of Christ's return to earth to take his own unto himself.

With kind regards,

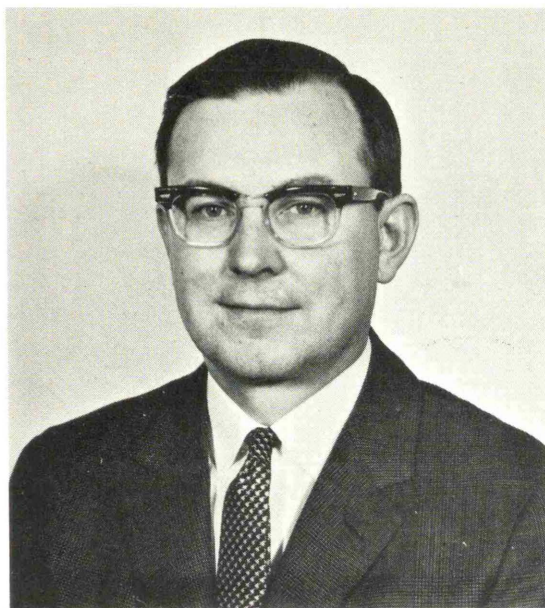
CORNELIUS VAN TIL

calvin theological seminary



Greetings to the Munster Christian Reformed Church:

The Church of Jesus Christ is our spiritual mother. John Calvin spoke of the church "into whose bosom God is pleased to gather his sons, not only that they may be nourished by her help and ministry as long as they are infants and children, but also that they may be guided by her motherly care until they mature and at last reach the goal of faith." In that rich sense I think of the Munster Christian Reformed Church as my spiritual mother. And on this centennial anniversary I extend greetings to you and thanks to God. With deep gratitude to God I think back upon the Munster church where I was nourished by faithful preaching of the Word and experienced the communion of the saints. I am thankful for challenging catechism classes with Rev. Monsma — the only pastor I knew before leaving for college and seminary. I recall well-attended worship services—often three a Sunday. The singing of Dutch psalms always reminds me of Munster and afternoon services which I



often attended as a boy. I recall with gratitude faithful Sunday school teachers and society leaders. Such nurture as I received at Munster I desire for my children and their children. I am happy to take this opportunity to thank God for these blessings and to extend my best wishes to you on this centennial celebration. May God continue to bless you as a congregation in the coming years through his Word and Spirit.

FRED H. KLOOSTER
Together with you in Christ's service,



Greetings:

Hearty congratulations as you pause to celebrate your Centennial as a congregation of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The blessings of our Covenant God throughout all these many years have been without end. It is indeed a miracle of grace to consider how the Christian Reformed Church of Munster began as a small struggling church to emerge into a vast congregation of people casting its witness far and wide into the world at large. In celebrating your Centennial, may you glory not in numbers, nor in wealth, nor in learning or in power, but only in this that the Lord Jesus dwells in your midst, who is Wealth and Wisdom and Power and with Whom two or three is a multitude.

Sincerely yours,
REV. C. VAN SCHOUWEN



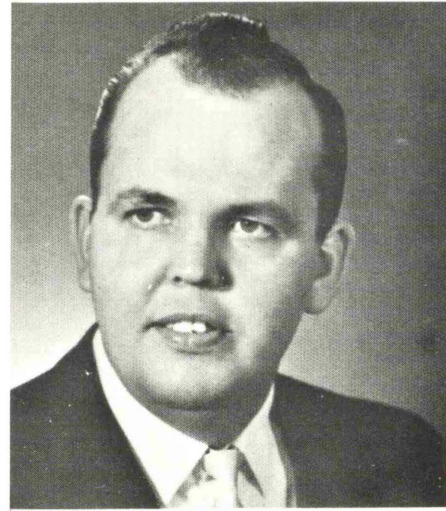
First Christian Reformed Church of Chilliwack

Dear Congregation:

It is with much joy and gratitude in our hearts that my wife and I extend our heartiest congratulations to you. One hundred years as a church in the same location is truly a tremendous blessing. May you ever remain thankful to God for showing such love to you.

We are particularly impressed with your motto "Looking forward to Another 'Christ-Controlled Century'." This so aptly makes one think that the past one hundred years have been given because of God's blessing. It also points to the fact that you want to continue to live for the Lord.

I personally feel very thankful to God for the Munster congregation and will always feel I am a member of it. For twenty eight years I had the privilege of being with you. I received much training from the church and was privileged to contribute with my talents. Then, when the desire came to enter the gospel ministry, the prayers

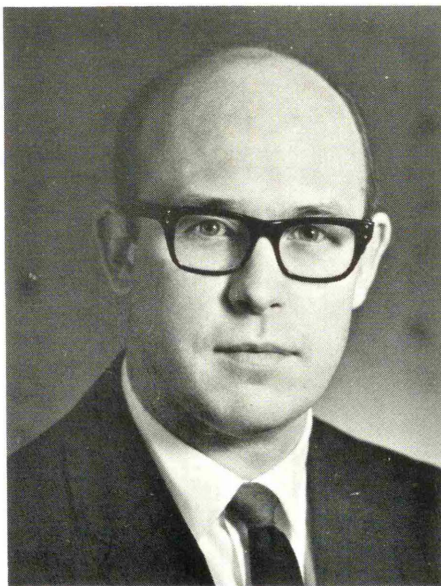


and gifts of the Munster congregation were a very strong encouragement.

Thank you for your past support and for the privilege of remaining so closely connected though separated by space. May God grant you another "Christ-Controlled Century!"

Happy Birthday to you all!

JAKE AND CHRIS DYKSTRA AND FAMILY



Dear Congregation of the Munster Christian Reformed Church:

My congratulations on your Centennial, and may you continue to be a strong witness for Christ for many years to come. I am pleased as an adopted son of the

congregation to have a small part in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Munster Christian Reformed Church.

An anniversary brings back reflections of people and events. I am reminded that even though we spent a relatively short time with you (four years), it was here that I felt the call to go into the ministry; and it was the warm generosity of the Munster congregation which helped make this call a reality. Thus we will always have a special regard for this, our "home" Church. Munster Church is a leader in our Denomination in providing extensive help to its sons and daughters as they prepare for full time Kingdom work. This is indicative of your spirit and willingness to promote God's Kingdom. This anniversary is an occasion to recall God's blessings and leading in the past, but it also is an insistant call to the future. Munster Church faces the challenge of witnessing in a growing suburban area; to proclaim and demonstrate the love of Christ as vitally relevant in the midst of revolution and change. If God is calling any one of you to commitment, rededication or full time service — respond in faith. There are no more appropriate words than Paul's exciting and profound confession: "I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me."

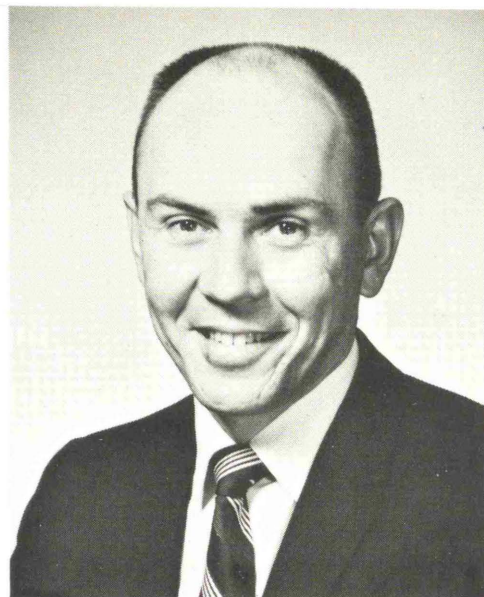
MAYNARD C. NIEBOER



Dear Friends in Christ,

"You shall remember all the way which the Lord your God has led you these one hundred years. . . that your God might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, . . . that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but that man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord" (Deuteronomy 8:2,3)

Remembering all that the Lord has done, it is my privilege to offer you congratulations and rejoice with you in His abundant blessings. I shared in those blessings as I received the sacrament of baptism in the church. Then came the solid training in worship, Sunday School, catechism and Boys Society. The grace of God led me to know my salvation and publicly profess my Savior in the church. How good to look back on these precious things and know that they continue in the lives of so many more!



My prayer is that you may remain faithful to our Covenant God, humble in the light of His amazing grace, but bold to proclaim His life-giving Word. May His Spirit fill all of us for diligent service to the praise of our Savior.

Greetings to my spiritual mother, from a grateful son,

Sincerely in Christ,

DOUGLAS VANDER WALL



OAKLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
BOX 100 A-RR 1

HAMILTON, MICHIGAN 49419

"The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad" — Psalm 126:3. These words fittingly describe the blessing which God's people experience in connection with an anniversary of the establishment of a congregation. I express my greeting to you, the Munster congregation, thankful that the Lord has brought you to this point in history. May you always be true to the truth of God and face the future with faith in the glorious Christ.

Sincerely yours,

REV. ANDREW VAN SCHOUWEN

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

GOLDTHWAITE ROAD, WHITINSVILLE, MASS. 01588

Church Of The Back To God Hour

Dear members and friends of Munster Church,

It gives me great pleasure to send greetings to you, the members of my home church, at the time of your centennial celebration. As a son of the congregation, this event evokes many memories of my early life in the Munster congregation where I first learned to worship and to understand Christian belief, and where I first came to the conviction of God's good claim on my life for salvation, through Jesus Christ, and for Christian service. I have many thoughts to share on this but in the interest of brevity I ask you to read the first chapter of Ephesians, verses 3 through 12, which say it all so well. But I also wish to add that I am deeply grateful to the Lord for having used many in Munster Church, including my parents, pastors, teachers and kind-hearted friends, to help me find and follow the way of Christ. My greatest satisfaction today is found in helping others in the same way.

As I write, I seem to recall another celebration 25 years ago when a band of ten-to twelve-year-olds had so caught the spirit of celebration that, while the adults talked and drank coffee in the church basement, somehow, mysteriously, the bell in the old church tower began to



ring! It was done mischievously then, but it seems to me all of us ought to be doing something like that openly and joyously now. We have a century of God's goodness to celebrate, and the "gospel's joyful sound" to share with all who will hear. Ring it out then, not only on the night of your program but always, for our hearts want to say: "Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound, May Jesus Christ be praised!"

With cordial greetings,

DURANT VAN OYEN



1855

Pacific Union Congregational Church

Westport, Massachusetts

"Greetings to all of you at this time of thanksgiving and celebration. With the vision of God and a heart of compassion for mankind, may you fearlessly proclaim the Way of our Lord Jesus to sinners within and outside the Church, as long as God entrusts you with this mission"

Sincerely,

CALVIN A. PATER

FAIRVIEW
Christian Reformed Church



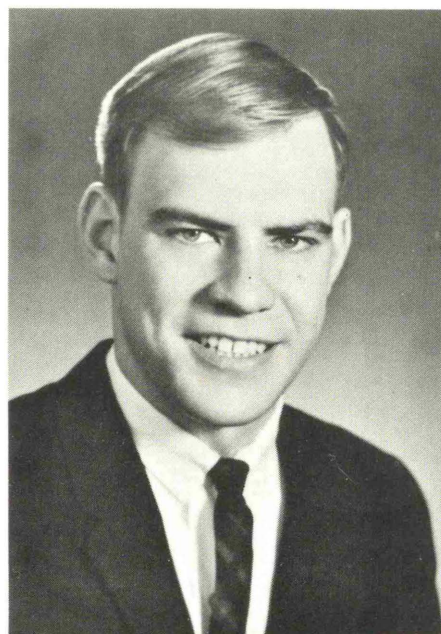
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to express my congratulations to my "home church" on its centennial. More importantly, I want to express my thanks to God for His spiritual leading in my life while I was at Munster. The spiritual training that I received there has helped me tremendously. I pray that as Christians we will press forward realizing that we cannot dwell on the past one hundred years, but must win new victories for Christ in another "Christ Controlled Century."

For this, let us pray for the Holy Spirit's leading in the next one hundred years!!

Together with you in Christ's service,

REV. KENNETH JAY VANDER WALL



faithful to His Word in Doctrine and Life, it is above all an indication that Our Covenant God has abundantly blessed you. I am thankful that I may testify that I was born again by the Grace of God while a member of Munster Christian Reformed Church. Since I have left I have missed the Fellowship of your Congregation; however, I continue to hear reports of your faithfulness and of your concern for sharing the Good News with the Community. I have always been and am now thankful to claim Munster as my Home Church.

At this very moment we are steeped in the busy process of preparing to leave for Foreign Mission Service. At the time of your festivities we will be in the Language School in San Jose, Costa Rica, and unable to be present with you. Our thoughts and prayers, be assured, are with you. May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to use you richly in the strategic ministries which you now exercise, and give you Grace to enlarge your impact. Congratulations and the Lord's richest blessings in the future.

With Warmest Greetings and Congratulations,

We praise God that you may have this opportunity to celebrate your Centennial. While it is an indication that you who are the Lord's People in Munster have been

In Christ's Service,
JERRY, ELLEN AND THE
LITTLE VAN OYEN'S
LORI, MIKE, FRANNY, AND JOEL

LETTERS FROM NEIGHBORING CHURCHES

First Christian Reformed Church

2904 GARFIELD STREET
Highland, Indiana 46322

REV. JOHN C. SCHOLTEN

Dear Fellow Christians:

The congregation of the First Christian Reformed Church of Highland extends greetings and best wishes to the members of the First Christian Reformed Church of Munster on the occasion of your 100th anniversary observance. We are thankful for the blessings of a rich Christian heritage which we share with you in a special way. First Highland Church traces its history back to the Munster Church as our "Mother Church." Thus we feel that a special relationship exists between us as brothers and sisters in Christ.

For the blessings of one hundred years of kingdom service, we join with you in giving all praise and honor to the King of the Church — the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours in His Service,
First Christian Reformed
Church, Highland, Indiana
For the Consistory:
REV. JOHN C. SCHOLTEN
PRESIDENT
GERRIT J. HUIJSING
CLERK

The Church of "The Back to God Hour"

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
3643 Lake Street — Lansing, Illinois 60438

REV. N. VOGELSANG, PASTOR
3643 LAKE STREET — LANSING
ILLINOIS 60438



Dear Brethren of Munster Christian Reformed Church;

It is with joy and gladness that we give thanks to our Almighty God for His grace upon you for these past 100 years! What a favor of the Lord's hand has come from your church during this last century.

When you remember all the sermons preached; the thousands of hours of catechism and Bible study received; those who have been united in holy wedlock in God's House in Munster; all the baptisms that have been administered and the children who have received the sign and seal of God's covenant; when you reflect upon all the Young People who have confessed His Name in His sanctuary and all those who have been laid to rest — then the great river of His grace is just impossible to calculate.

Your Church has also been rich in evangelism. A real love for those who have been lost has pervaded your activities in the past years. This is an effort to be highly commended, for the Lord has said, "Go ye out into all

the world, teaching . . . and making disciples of all men . . ." Matt. 28:19. You have offered the Lord's invitation to many. Your voice has been clearly heard over the radio as you said with Isaiah 55, "Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the waters . . ."

We congratulate you then, our Mother church for having received this grace from the Lord. 100 years! I believe the figures are that one out of 10,000 businesses survive for 100 years. All the rest fall by the wayside. But the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ continues for the " . . . gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18

May we encourage you: "Fight the good fight of faith" "Continue in the sound preaching of the Word and in discipline and" . . . "ye shall receive the crown of glory that fadeth not away." I Peter 5:4

Sincerely in Christ;
First Christian Reformed
Church of Lansing
REV. N. VOGELSANG: Pastor

Second Christian Reformed Church OF HIGHLAND

3010 RIDGE ROAD

HIGHLAND, INDIANA 46322

Fellow Christians,

Greetings on your 100th anniversary as a congregation in Jesus Christ. We rejoice with you in the obvious blessings of God throughout these many years. As a grand-daughter of your congregation, we realize that the extent of that blessing cannot be seen by simply looking at your congregation. You have been blessed, and have been a blessing for others.

It must be interesting to study the contrast between the church as it was founded, and the church today. The world has changed so radically in those years, and to some extent, the church also. Yet it is the same God whom we serve, it is the same salvation that we seek, and it is the same Spirit that guides us. This is our strength, and our joy.

We rejoice with you in the years of blessing, but even more, we rejoice in the truth that has been, and still is proclaimed. Surely a century of hearing the riches of God's Word is cause for joy and praise to our God. Our wish for you is that this blessing may continue for yet another century, if the Lord tarries; and then we would renew the wish once again.

We share in your Joy, and we give thanks to God for His ample blessing.

For the Consistory,
II Highland Christian
Reformed Church
REV. JAMES DE VRIES,
PASTOR

Oak Glen Christian Reformed Church

2244 INDIANA AVENUE

LANSING, ILLINOIS

REV. ENNO L. HAAN, PASTOR
2244 INDIANA AVENUE
LANSING, ILL. 60438

CHURCH OF THE
SUNDAY MORNING BROADCAST
8:30 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.
WILSON FM 108.3 FM DIAL

Dear Christian Friends:

Your neighboring Oak Glen Christian Reformed Church congratulates you on the significant occasion of your centennial celebration as a church of Christ. The Oak Glen church rejoices with you and is grateful for what God has done through you to establish a Christian Reformed community in what is now known as our Illiana area.

As you pause to commemorate, there are blessings to observe, and a like number of responsibilities to reassume. Your centennial means that God in His goodness has for a long time reached out to you with His word of grace and truth. Looking back through the years you can see a long succession of ministers who have preached the Word of life to you. There is also a long list of elders and deacons who have been God's servants ministering to your temporal and spiritual good.

Today the way of life and living is much different from what it was when Christ first gave you birth. Amid the changing scene, however, it is our prayer as a neighboring church that for all of us the changes may be only superficial, and that in the deeper things of faith and consecrated living there may be no departure. May your present generation and those yet to come, stand shoulder to shoulder with the fathers of the past, earnestly contending for the faith once for all delivered unto the saints.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
The Oak Glen Christian
Reformed Church
ENNO L. HAAN, PASTOR
CLARENCE VERBEEK, CLERK

bethel christian reformed church

2248 - 186th street, lansing, illinois 60438

Dear Mother Congregation:

One hundred years! Bethel, one of your daughters, wants you to know of its joy with you as you celebrate this milestone of your church life.

A century is long or short, depending on your point of view. In a way, the time seems long, because few of us attain to the age of 100. But on the other hand, history has long, long shadows, and Munster may be in the earlier years of its history! We feel sure that this is the way you want it. May your ecclesiastical life be long, happy, and useful!

Back in the year 1958, Munster sent 27 families and 4 individuals to help form the nucleus of the newly organized Bethel Christian Reformed Church of Lansing, Illinois. In a way, Bethel can call Munster its Grandmother, because 34 families and 5 individuals came to us then from another of your daughters, First Lansing! Bethel has always enjoyed the best of relationships with its forebears. In fact, \$67,000 came from the First Lansing, Munster, and Oak Glen churches to help Bethel get a healthy financial start.

During these years our world has changed tremendously, but the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ remains the same. Bethel joins the others in expressing the hope and prayer that Munster will continue to transmit the Faith of our Fathers in the community in which God has placed you. May you ever be faithful to Him, and may His grace continue to shine down upon you as you begin your second century of existence.

Sincerely,
Bethel Christian Reformed
Church of Lansing, Illinois
ARTHUR W. HOOGRATE

**HAMMOND
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH**
HAMMOND, INDIANA

ACROSS
THE
STREET
FROM
WOODMAN
SHOPPING
CENTER

Dear Friends,

Human beings tend to weaken as they increase in years. The history of the Munster Chr. Ref. Church testifies to the Biblical fact that the church is not human but is a divine institution, namely the body of Christ. God has certainly blessed you, our mother church, with both spiritual and numerical growth.

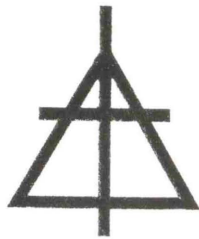
As a daughter church we send our filial greetings and we also send a special thank you for the support that you have given us through the years. It was the Munster consistory who "mothered" us during the years that we were not an organized church. Since our organization we have continued to receive support from you, our mother church, and we thank you most sincerely.

We want to wish you a blessed centennial year and we pray for God's blessing upon you as you continue to meet the challenges of a new century in your existence.

In Christ's Service,
The Consistory
HAMMOND CHR. REF. CHURCH

CLASSIS ILLIANA

*Munster Christian Reformed Church
Consistory - Congregation*



CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH

SYNOD

Esteemed Congregation of Jesus Christ:

It is, indeed, a great pleasure to extend hearty congratulations to the congregation of Munster, Indiana, on its Centennial anniversary. As one of our churches in the Mid-West you have the distinction to have reached the 100th year of existence. In all these years your church has been marked by faithful services of devoted pastors, office bearers, and members who gave of their talents and gifts to advance and build the church. As you look back you can say with confidence the Lord has been our Helper, and Christ as the King of the Church has remembered us in all our needs and has never forsaken us. Therefore, to Him alone be all the praise and glory in the hour of celebration.

As you now face the future it will be wise to heed the voice of history. A church to continue its existence must continue to remain faithful to the Word of God, and denominationally remain loyal to the Forms of Unity which bind the churches in united service to her only Lord and King. May this be the purpose of all of your members in the coming years. May the congregation of Munster ever remain a shining light in our Christian Reformed denominational life.

Cordially yours in the
name of Synod,

R. J. DANHOF
Stated Clerk of Synod

At this centennial celebration, it is well to remember that you as a congregation are part of a larger body, namely, a Classis of the Christian Reformed Church. More particularly, a member of Classis Illiana. Therefore this Classis rejoices with you as you celebrate this century anniversary of your existence.

Occasions such as this should be times of looking forward as well as backward. Even the ancient pagan Romans were aware of this truth. For they had a god which they called Janos (from which comes our name for the first month of the year, January.) This god was a two-faced god, one face was aged in appearance, the other youthful; with the one face he looked backward, with the other forward. As Christians we know that the Word of God also admonishes us to remember the past and at the same time also to look forward and strive for that which lies before.

Looking backward for a moment, history tells us that you were one of the earliest congregations in our denomination. It dates back to the time when our church numbered only twelve thousand souls, twenty-six congregations, seventeen ordained pastors, gathered in only four Classes, namely, Classis Michigan, Illinois, Iowa and Hudson. A glance at our current Yearbook reveals the long way of growth and advance which you have experienced along with our entire denomination, a fact which must assuredly cause you to exclaim, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

And now we bid you ask, "What has been the effect of past experience upon us, so that we can receive profit therefrom for the future?" We urge you to stand firmly in the convictions of your faith, in your heartfelt love for the Lord, and in your most fundamental motive to labor for the proclamation of His Gospel as the only way unto the eternal city of God. We bid you continue, with the one universal church of our Lord:

"Til with the vision glorious,
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest."

CLASSIS ILLIANA
REV. I. COUWENHOVEN S. C.

First Reformed Church of Lansing

3130 Ridge Road
Lansing, Illinois
60438

Russell E. Horton, Pastor
Home 474-5505
Study 474-0238



Dear Gentlemen:

Our hearts rejoice with you as you come to the significant occasion of celebrating a hundred years of service to Jesus Christ in this community.

How quickly time passes, and yet to think that in that passage of time we labor together for the endless ages of eternity is an astounding thought.

As a comparatively new pastor of your sister church, The First Reformed Church of Lansing, I must recognize that many of you, along with many of our people, are much better acquainted with the associations between our two churches than I, personally, shall ever be. I am, however, aware of the fact that very pleasant relationships have existed throughout the years. I am given to understand that we shared each other's buildings on occasions when similar disasters struck each congregation. More important, however, than human kindness and friendship is the fact that we have been commissioned by our Lord Jesus Christ to proclaim the same Gospel unto the ends of the earth. For your part in the fulfillment of this divine mandate we commend you, and trust that you will be mightily used of God until Jesus Christ, our Lord, comes again.

Most Sincerely Yours,
In behalf of the Consistory
of The First Reformed
Church of Lansing
REV. RUSSELL E. HORTON



Trinity Reformed Church

Dear Friends in Christ,

We of Trinity Reformed Church are happy to extend our greetings to you in this 100th anniversary year. Your edifice has long been a landmark in Munster and your Christian witness has touched many throughout this Christian community.

May your Centennial Year provide you with numerous opportunities for a greater witness to Jesus Christ. We congratulate you on your past achievements and encourage you to continue serving our wonderful Lord — all for His Honor and Glory.

By His Mercy,
REV. PAUL D. SCHMIDT
PRESIDENT
JOHN A. SCHOON
VICE-PRESIDENT

The Ridge United Methodist Church

8607 COLUMBIA AVENUE • MUNSTER, INDIANA 46321
TELEPHONE (219) 838-4770

Greetings:

As one of the younger worshipping bodies of Christian believers in the town of Munster, we take this opportunity to congratulate you upon your 100th anniversary as an established congregation. We share with you deep concern over the trends in American culture and community life which hinder the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May we together make solid witness to the relevance of our faith to such a world as ours. Congratulations and best wishes.

In His Name,
PAUL B. STEPHENSON
MINISTER
H. ROBERT HAYES,
CHAIRMEN
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

First Baptist Church of Munster

LYLE W. LEE, Pastor
8017 Jackson Street, Munster, Ind.

9635 CALUMET AVENUE, MUNSTER, INDIANA 46321

Office Phone — 836-3110 Area Code 219
Res. Phone — 836-8438 Area Code 219

Dear Brethren in Christ:

We of the Munster First Baptist Church wish to congratulate the First Christian Reformed Church of Munster upon completion of 100 years of service to Christ. Your strong evangelical ministry throughout the years has been a strong force for good in the community, and you have helped shape the course of Munster's history.

It is our confidence that your congregation will continue to lead out in faithful service to Christ as we move into the most challenging decade this world has ever presented to the Church. We look forward to all the churches in the Christian community joining hands in the days ahead — more than ever before — to impress upon the world the claims of Christ and to live out our mission in the world in the spirit of love and joy and victory.

We pray that your next hundred years will be marked by continued success in the Gospel and that your past will be but a prelude to a glorious future.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
JOHN CURRIE, MODERATOR
CHARLOTTE ESSLINGER,
CLERK
LYLE W. LEE, PASTOR

St. Thomas More Church

8501 CALUMET AVENUE
MUNSTER, INDIANA 46321

To the Clergy, Council and All Members:

The members and priests of St. Thomas More Church of Munster are happy to rejoice with the Members of The First Christian Reformed Church of Munster for your Century of accomplishments in promoting the Kingdom of God in our community. We wish to congratulate your Church for your years of service to God and for providing for the spiritual needs of most of the members of this community. For many years the First Christian Reformed Church had carried on alone to evangelize the people of Munster. As the town grew and other churches took their places, the First Christian Reformed Church continued to contribute greatly to the spiritual welfare of the community.

May God in His Divine ways bestow many blessings upon the First Christian Reformed Church and its members that all may serve in His holy cause. Again may we rejoice with you over the accomplishments of the first century and pray God that in the next century the Word of the Lord will greatly enrich the souls of this community.

Sincerely yours in
Jesus Christ,
ROBERT B. WEIS, PASTOR

THE REV. GERALD J. GREGG
PASTOR

Westminster Presbyterian Church

8988 COLUMBIA AVENUE
MUNSTER, INDIANA 46321
PHONE 838-9131

Representing the members of this congregation, we wish to express our very best wishes on the one hundredth anniversary of your church.

As residents of this community we are well aware of the fine Christian service your congregation has rendered for so many years. Your leadership has played an important part in shaping the history of this region.

But, even more directly, as members of this Presbyterian church we highly value your fellowship and appreciate the qualities for which you stand. We shall never forget the outstanding act of Christian brotherhood for which our church is indebted to yours.

We refer, of course, to your most generous opening of your church building every Sunday morning for more than three years so that our congregation, then only a new Presbyterian mission, could worship and study. You made available to us the entire facilities of the building plus the services of organist and custodian.

In large part because of your generosity, our congregation grew rapidly in numbers. Your gracious hospitality continued unabated until our own building was completed. In 1965 we found ourselves a strong congregation with a fine church home, a situation we would not have reached without your help.

However that three-year-long deed of Christian charity may measure up in your hundred years of service, please know that we consider it a magnificent instance of the spirit of brotherhood. We cannot adequately express our gratitude.

We do look forward to many years in which our congregation can work together to advance the concerns of Christ in this community.

Sincerely,
J. GILBERT BENSON, CLERK
REV. GERALD J. GREGG
MODERATOR

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

900 RIDGEWAY OFF CALUMET, MUNSTER, IND. 46321
PHONE: 836-1448

REV. LYNN H. SMITH, PASTOR
7348 HARRISON AVE., HAMMOND, 46324
PHONE: 932-6624

Dear Fellow Christians:

It is with great admiration that we congratulate you of the First Christian Reformed Church of Munster, Indiana, for a century of progress in our community. It is well to exalt the name of Jesus Christ in any form, but it is especially noteworthy to give attention to His work in the life of the church.

Your cooperative ministry over this past one hundred years will be a good example to others of us who seek to be obedient to the Lord's command to "go make disciples." In the midst of many difficulties which often seek to deter the message of Christ, you have persevered in faithful service. Without question those won to the church confirm this, as well as those who have moved from your local church to other areas of Gospel service: pastoral ministry, missionary work and personal service.

Your continued leadership and mutual concern will be valued by all church communions as you enter a new phase of your ministry. The people of the First Church of God shall be praying that God's blessings be yours in a "Christ-Controlled Century."

Very Sincerely yours,
REV. LYNN H. SMITH
PASTOR
First Church of God



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Speak unto
the people,
that they
go forward.

Exodus 14:15

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